



WORLD / A24

Poland's president picks identical twin brother as new PM

NEWS / A2

Board of generals giving GMA free hand in choice of new AFP chief of staff

NEWS / A4

Over 100 killed in 7 simultaneous train blasts in India

2BU! / C2

2 movies, hot snacks, other things rocking the Pinoy youth



2 expert lip readers solve Zidane head butt

LONDON—"SON OF A terrorist whore... so just f*** off!" Two British newspapers on Tuesday claimed that expert lip readers had solved the mystery of what Italy's Marco

PHILIPPINE DAILY

INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Wednesday, July 12, 2006 ★★ 8 sections / Vol. 21 / No. 214 P18 website: www.inq7.net

SWS: Dissatisfaction with GMA decreasing

STILL NEGATIVE BUT IMPROVING. The net satisfaction rating of President Macapagal-Arroyo rose 12 points to -13, with 34 percent of Filipinos saying they were satisfied with her performance and 48 percent saying they were not, according to a recent survey by the Social Weather Stations (SWS). The President's rating has gone up the past

'Senga waited 2 hours'

AFP report details timeline of Feb. 24 plot

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan

ARMED FORCES CHIEF of Staff Gen. Generoso Senga waited nearly two hours before he convened his top brass to deal with rebellious officers urging him to join them in withdrawing support from President Macapagal-Arroyo on Feb. 24, a draft report of a military investigative panel said.

The report did not say whether Senga immediately reported the plot to Ms Arroyo. The unsigned report confirmed earlier INQUIRER accounts surrounding what Ms Arroyo described in her declaration of a national state of emergency on that fateful day as a leftist and rightist conspiracy to oust her.

SENGA/A8

New PSG chief is intel expert

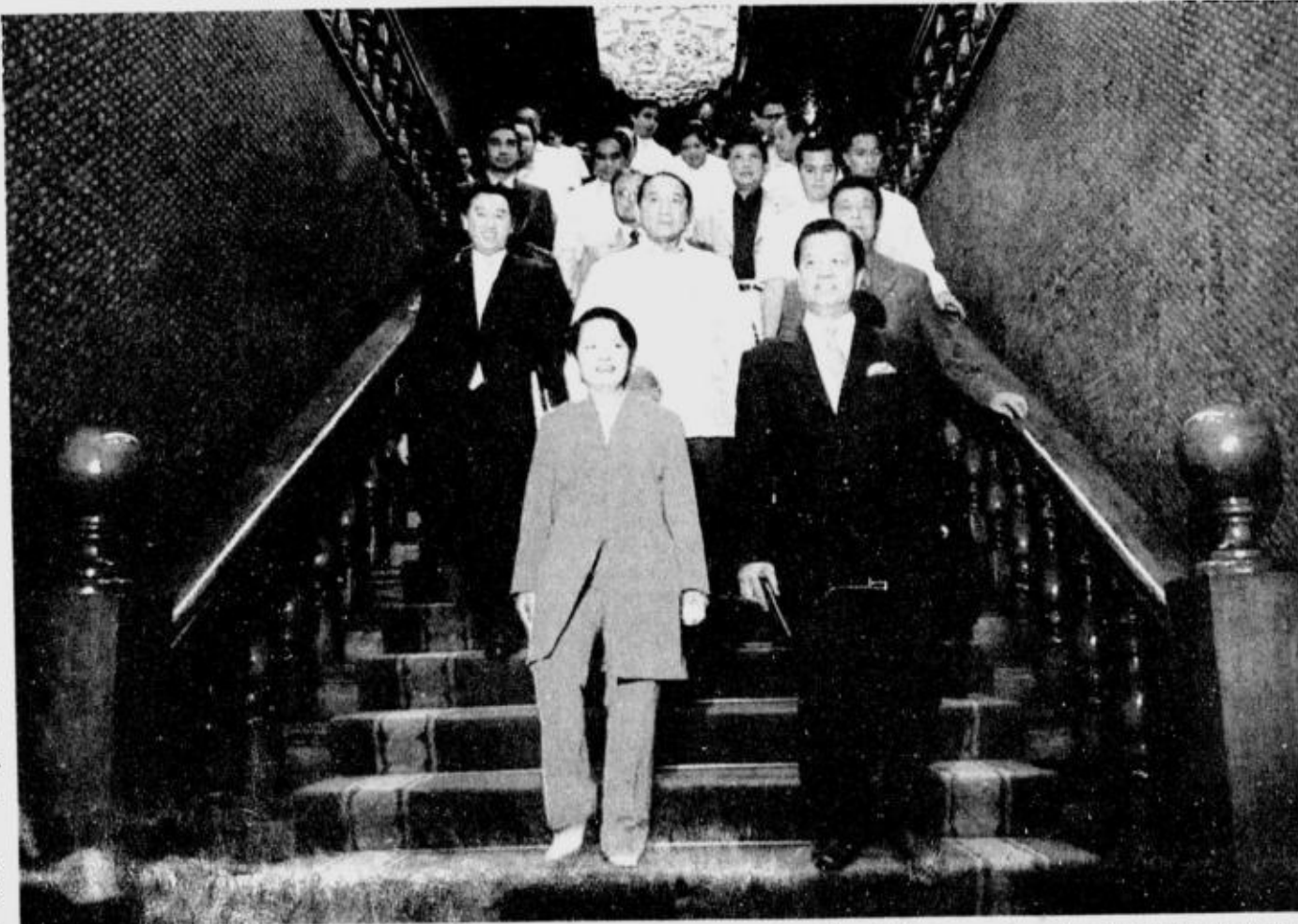
By Christine O. Avendano

AN AIR FORCE OFFICER WITH A long experience in intelligence work is the new chief of President Macapagal-Arroyo's security force.

Col. Romeo Prestoza, current deputy chief of the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (Isafp), will take over today from Brig. Gen. Delfin Bangit as head of the Presidential Security Group (PSG).

Prestoza is a classmate of Bangit at the Philippine Military Academy and both belong to Class 1978.

NEW PSG/A6



GRAND ENTRANCE: President Arroyo leads Vice President Noli de Castro, members of her Cabinet, governors of northern Luzon, Central Luzon and Mindanao on the way to the joint Cabinet and Regional Development Council meeting at the Palace on Tuesday.

ERAP'S NEW NEIGHBOR

Lim moved to maximum security jail

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan and Margaux C. Ortiz

CLAIMING SOME GROUPS EITHER planned to harm him or rescue him, Army authorities clamped Brig. Gen. Danilo Lim in a heavy security stockade last night, hours after the sacked Scout Ranger commander defended his video tape declaring his withdrawal of support from President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Lim was transferred from Fort Bonifacio, where he had been restricted to quarters, to a maximum security military facility in Tanay, Rizal—making him a neighbor of detained former President Joseph Estrada, who is held just across the street.

Army chief Lt. Gen. Hermogenes Esperon ordered Lim's transfer "after receiving reports that some groups are planning to inflict harm on Lim or to spring him out to prevent him from testifying," Army spokesperson Lt. Col. Bartolome Bacarro said.

Before the transfer, Lim appeared at the National Bureau of Investigation, denied involvement in any coup plot and said his declaration on video renouncing his support of Ms Arroyo had, in fact, thwarted plans by soldiers to overthrow her.

The former commander of the elite First Scout Rangers Regiment also said he never hid the existence of the video tape showing him reading a statement and calling Ms Arroyo a bogus president, but said the tape was "illegally obtained."

"Nakatulong pa nga yun para huwag ituloy ng mga batang official yung plano nila kung mayroon man na coup or pagaalsa (It even helped convince the young officers not to push through with their plans to launch a coup, if they had such plans, all)," Lim told reporters after appearing before NBI officials.

He added: "It convinced them that there are other means be-

LIM/A8



SUMMONED: Brig. Gen. Danilo Lim arrives at the NBI for questioning on his alleged involvement in the Feb. 24 coup plot.

Malacañang distributed cash to bishops

By Christian V. Esguerra

LIKE MANNA DROPPING FROM heaven, envelopes containing between P20,000 and P30,000 in cash were purportedly offered to a number of bishops during the recent retreat and plenary assembly of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines.

Asked yesterday about the purported doles tipped off to the INQUIRER, one bishop admitted to being handed an envelope by a "casual-looking" man who had introduced himself as a messenger "from Malacañang."

The bishop, a soft-spoken and low-key member of the CBCP and based in one of the country's poorest dioceses, said he was offended but politely rejected the envelope.

"It was revolting. I felt insulted. Medyo garapal," he said, adding that earlier this year, he had also

MALACAÑANG/A18

CBCP: From 'we reject' to 'not inclined'

By Christian V. Esguerra

THE SOUND AND FURY WHICH critics claim are missing in the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines' pastoral statement on Monday can be probably gleaned from how the prelates deliberated.

There were no spirited debates behind the statement, titled "Shepherding and Prophesying in Hope," that marked deliberations in July 2005 when the CBCP stayed away from calls that President Macapagal-Arroyo step aside over claims she rigged the 2004 election but that she should not ignore them altogether.

The only point of contention during the plenary over the weekend was the latest impeachment case against the President, according to a CBCP insider familiar

CBCP/A18



THE DEFENSE tries to discredit expert witness Raquel Fortun citing her alleged bias due to her active advocacy of women's rights.

'Genital injuries consistent' with rape

By Volt Contreras and Tarra V. Quismundo

THE EXPERT WITNESS PRESENTED in court yesterday by the prosecution in the Subic rape case maintained that the genital injuries of the complainant were "consistent" with her claim of sexual violation.

Dr. Raquel Fortun, a leading forensic pathologist, echoed the observations earlier made by Dr. Rolando Ortiz, the medico-legal officer who had examined the alleged rape victim.

Bringing a stack of about 15 books and journals with her to the stand, Fortun was asked by private prosecutor Evalyn Ursua for her opinion on Ortiz's findings on "Nicole," particularly on the contusions found on her limbs and private parts.

"If [sexual intercourse] is non-consensual, genital injuries would be consistent," said Fortun, citing passages from her reference materials, including handbooks on sexual assault investigation.

She conceded that injuries could also occur during consensual sex, but said these would be "unusual" because a willing woman would assume a position that would make her not only "relaxed" but also "receptive" to her partner.

Contrary to the schedule previously agreed on, Nicole did not return to the stand yesterday.

Prosecutors asked Makati Judge Benjamin Pozon at the start of the hearing to let them call back Fortun and take advantage of her available time.

The Filipino complainant is ex-

GENITAL/A8

'Bishops pushing people to stage people power'

By Norman Bordadora

AFTER THE COUNTRY'S ROMAN Catholic bishops expressed lack of faith in current moves to impeach President Macapagal-Arroyo, what now?

Two of the country's legal experts yesterday portrayed two possible scenarios in the country's search for the truth behind the allegations that Ms Arroyo cheated in the 2004 election.

Former Senate President Jovito Salonga said the statement of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines that it could not support current impeachment moves could leave people with no choice but to stage another People Power revolution.

Former Commission on Elections Chair Christian Monsod, a member of

the 1986 Constitutional Commission, said that next year's mid-term elections were another way out of the political impasse.

Monsod is a convenor of the civil society group One Voice, one of the groups which the CBCP in its statement commended for nonpartisanship.

"The bishops may be pushing the people to stage another people power. The bishops are virtually telling the people there is no more hope," Salonga said in an interview at the offices of his lawyers' watchdog group Kilosbayan.

Salonga, a Protestant leader, agreed with the bishops that the impeachment process in the country was far from perfect.

He, however, said that it was the last

BISHOPS/A18

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Extreme Northern Luzon will experience occasional rains with gusty winds and the coastal waters along these areas will be moderate to rough. Rest of Luzon and Western Visayas will experience monsoon rains. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to cloudy with isolated rainshowers or thunderstorms.

Second FRONT PAGE

Text us your feedback: inquirer news name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Metro Manila	Rains	Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains
Baguio	Rains	Roxas	Rains
Tuguegarao	Stormy	Cebu	Partly Cloudy
Laag	Rains	Taalaban	Partly Cloudy
Clark Zone	Rains	Gen. Santos	Partly Cloudy
Taytay	Rains	Zamboanga	Partly Cloudy
Lagupit	Cloudy with Rains	Cagayan de Oro	Partly Cloudy
Calapan	Rains	Davao	Partly Cloudy

Esperon heads list of bets for top AFP post

By Julie S. Alipala and Gil C. Cabangan Jr.

THE BOARD OF GENERALS (BOG) WANTS to give President Macapagal-Arroyo a free hand in choosing her next Armed Forces chief of staff, according to outgoing military chief Gen. Generoso Senga.

"I cannot say who will replace me. There are many candidates, those with the service commands and those who are already senior officers," Senga said during a weekend visit to Zamboanga City.

The BOG members are Air Force chief Lt. Gen. Jose Reyes, Navy chief Vice Admiral Mateo Mayuga, Army chief Hermogenes Esperon Jr., Armed Forces vice chief Lt. Gen. Rafael Romero, deputy vice chief of staff Lt. Gen. Christie Datu and Senga.

Ms Arroyo is set to hold pow-wows with her top generals before announcing her choice for the successor of Senga who will retire on July 21.

Presidential Chief of Staff Michael Defensor said yesterday that "the President would meet with her top generals maybe collectively and individually" in the coming days to tell them what she wanted in her next chief of staff as well as to personally assess their individual visions for the military's future.

4 candidates

Defensor said the top four candidates being considered for the plum post are: Esperon, Reyes, Mayuga and Romero.

He said the President's top priority in choosing Senga's successor was the continued implementation of the program to professionalize the military after two decades of numerous adventurism and mutiny attempts.

He added that the President would pay close attention to how they plan to carry out the objective of professionalizing the military and whether the troops would follow him on this "high road."

While individual competence and leadership in the service would be considered brownie points for the aspirants, Defensor said loyalty especially to the Constitution and the chain-of-command ("not necessarily to the President") was critical.

Esperon, who often displayed his loyalty to Ms Arroyo and who played a decisive role in quashing a coup plot in February, was seen in military circles as the leading candidate. With a report from Joselle Badilla, PDI Mindanao Bureau.

Lt. San Juan to tell all

Magdalo financiers known Friday, says Army chief

By Tonnette Orejas PDI Central Luzon Desk

CLARK SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE—DETAINED First Lt. Lawrence San Juan will reveal on Friday the alleged financiers of the Magdalo group of renegade soldiers, Army chief Lt. Gen. Hermogenes Esperon Jr. said here on Monday.

"We will present to you Lt. San Juan probably this Friday," Esperon told reporters here following the opening of the war games between the Philippine and Malaysian armies.

Esperon declined to give details on what the Magdalo officer had so far divulged. "Please wait for that so we could all have the papers with us," he said.

San Juan, one of four rebel soldiers who escaped from Fort Bonifacio, was re-arrested in February this year in Batangas.

In the same interview, Esperon did not hide his displeasure when asked how he felt about sacked Brig. Gen. Danilo Lim's withdrawal of support for President Macapagal-Arroyo, as shown in a video tape.

"Of course, when you break the chain of command, that is a violation of the Articles of War," he added. "Insurrection is a violation. Disrespect is a violation. Inciting to mutiny is a violation," Esperon said.

Lim used to head the First Scout Rangers Regiment in Camp Tecson in San Miguel, Bulacan.

Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez met with Lim yesterday afternoon at the former's office.

But Gonzalez opted not to divulge what the controversial military officer said during their two-hour meeting.

"He was telling me information that are confidential in nature ... but what he said carries a lot of weight," Gonzalez told the INQUIRER in a telephone interview.

Asked whether Lim said something about the key characters—mid-level Cabinet men, politicians and businessmen—who allegedly plotted and financed the aborted coup, Gonzalez opted to skirt the question.

"In time we can concretize things ... We must look for collaborative statements or evidence. All things are being evaluated and appreciated," he said, adding, however, that what Lim said came from the "mouth of a credible witness."

According to him, Lim had agreed to "cooperate for the sake of the truth."

Gonzalez said that Lim was also unhappy that the tape where he was shown withdrawing support from the President was "leaked" and he wanted the National Bureau of Investigation to find out who gave the tape to television station ABS-CBN.

Gonzalez also said they did not discuss the possibility of Lim turning into a state witness, saying if he had offered Lim such option in their first meeting, the latter might feel insulted.

Last Monday, Gonzalez said he was not ruling out the possibility of getting Lim as state witness to pin down the brains and financiers of the Feb. 24 aborted coup attempt against the Arroyo administration.

"It would depend on the gravity of his (Lim) case. We cannot rule out anybody ... depending on one's liability," Gonzalez had said. With a report from Armand N. Nocum



REVISITED, the house on Adler Street in Filinvest 2 in Quezon City yielded more evidence against Magdalo soldiers and two civilian supporters.

RAFFY LERMA

Magdalo officer to squeal on comrades, says prober

By Luige A. del Puerto, Armand Nocum and Tarra V. Quismundo

A MEMBER OF THE MAGDALO GROUP HAS turned his back on his former colleagues and has opted to cooperate with authorities, a senior investigator said yesterday.

Police said Lt. Patricio Bumidang, one of six rogue soldiers arrested in a raid in Quezon City, has expressed his willingness to cooperate with police investigators and has signed a document saying so.

"This is a huge breakthrough. If we are now groping in the dark, then we are seeing some light," said Senior Supt. Asher Dolina, head of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group-National Capital Region.

Dolina said Bumidang might have finally realized "the futility" of the Magdalo group's actions. He hinted that Bumidang could become a state witness.

"During our raid when we captured them, I noticed even then that Lt. Bumidang appeared to be blaming his colleagues (for what happened)," Dolina said.

But Assistant Chief State Prosecutor Richard Anthony Padullon said Bumidang cannot be used as a state witness against his co-accused because the crime of illegal possession of firearms is not a conspiracy.

Also captured during the raid were Capt. Nathaniel Rabonza, 1st Lt. Sonny Sarmiento, 2nd Lts. Angelbert Gay and Aldrin Baldonado, and Navy Lt. j.g. Kiram Sadava, and two civilians, lawyer Christopher Belmonte and Michael Yangson.

The Department of Justice has filed before a Quezon City court charges of illegal possession of firearms and explosives and direct assault against the six Magdalo soldiers.

Bumidang would be the second Magdalo officer to squeal on his former colleagues. The Army earlier confirmed that 1st Lt. Lawrence San Juan, another Magdalo officer captured in February in Batangas, had been cooperating with authorities.

On Monday night, Bumidang "turned over"

three laptop computers, a flash disc, an external computer memory, at least nine mobile phones, a printer, three bank passbooks, and at least three envelopes containing documents.

Investigators were fast to retrieve and analyze the electronic documents.

Asked what they expect the documents to contain, CIDG chief Director Jesus Versoza said: "It might complement our initial analysis of the (plans) of the Magdalo, based on the (seized) blueprints of the Batasan complex, the proximity of their house to Batasan, and the timing (of their move to the area)," Versoza said.

Versoza said that based on their initial analysis, the Magdalo group was planning to do some destabilization during the State of the Nation Address.

The CIDG had tried to apply for another warrant to seize the items that the raiding team had left behind inside the alleged Magdalo safehouse on Adler Street in Filinvest 2 in Quezon City.

But on Monday night, a classmate of Dolina from the Philippine Army told him Bumidang was already willing to help the police retrieve documents. Thus, a search warrant was no longer needed.

Dolina said he had Bumidang executed a handwritten statement saying he was cooperating and that he was not coerced into doing so before he and CIDG officers proceeded to the Filinvest subdivision.

Bumidang was accompanied by his lawyer, Francis Villanueva, police said.

Yesterday, two of the recaptured renegade soldiers appeared in a Makati court.

Wearing only slippers, Rabonza and Sarmiento were brought by their military custodians to the Makati Regional Trial Court.

Sarmiento's lawyer Theodore Te and Rabonza's counsel, Rene Saguisag, however, noted that their clients were obviously not ready for the hearing, as they came in improper attire, unlike their co-accused who were in military uniform.

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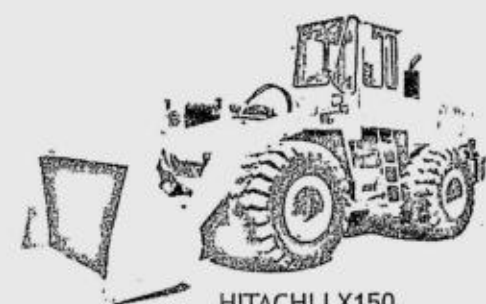
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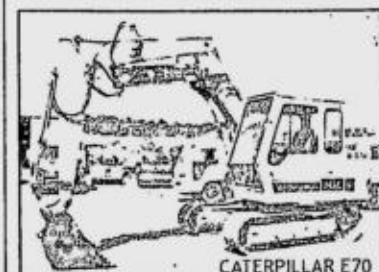
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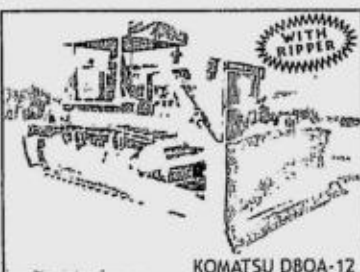
SALE STARTS AT 8:30 A.M. SHARP



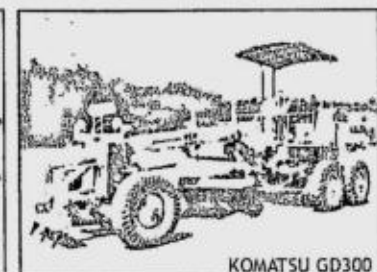
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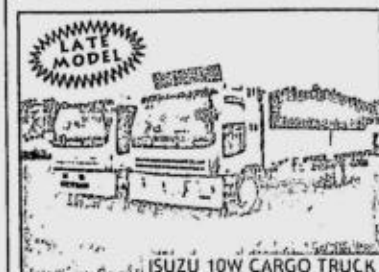
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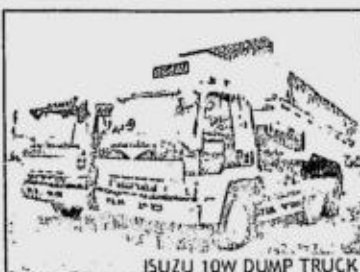
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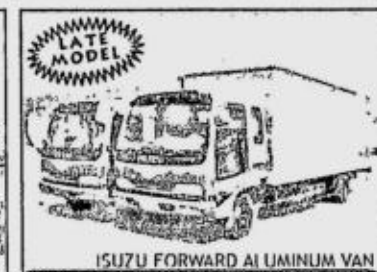
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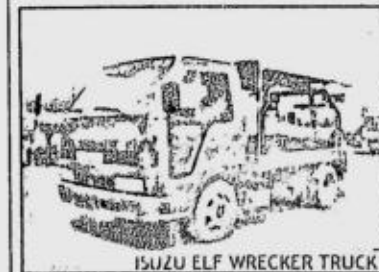
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S. Korea eases ban on foreign doctors

By Jerome Aning

SOUTH KOREA IS planning to allow foreign doctors with medical licenses to get jobs in hospitals and medical institutions there, the Philippine Overseas Employment Authority said yesterday.

In a statement, POEA said that the Ministry of Health and Welfare of South Korea recently announced its plan to revise the enforcement regulations in the country's Medical Law which is expected to be finalized in September.

POEA quoted a report by the Philippine Embassy in Seoul which said that under the proposed regulation, foreign doctors with medical licenses may be allowed to work in South Korea by March next year.

However, the regulation, if approved, would only allow a foreign doctor to treat patients who have the same nationality as the medical practitioner, or if they both speak the same language, but would not be allowed to treat Korean patients.

Revision

The revision would pave the way for the entry of Filipino doctors to South Korea to take care of the health needs of about 45,000 Filipinos and about 400,000 English-speaking foreigners there, according to POEA.

The agency said that criteria about the qualifications and process of permitting foreign doctors are expected to come before the end of the year.

Meanwhile, the POEA said that the United Kingdom's Home Office has announced the removal of general nurses from the shortage occupation list, and retaining only those with specific fields of specialization.

The new policy, according to the POEA, take effect Aug. 14.

The mover requires British employers to satisfy the resident labor market test first before they can recruit foreign general nurses.

Pinay missing in Greece

A FILIPINO WOMAN has been missing for more than two weeks after the sailboat that she and her Greek husband were sailing collided with a high-speed yacht off the coast of Glyfada in Greece.

In a statement, the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) identified the Filipina as Claudine Gabisan Valkanas, a native of Cebu.

Valkanas and her husband were on their sailboat "Sea Bird" when it collided with the English-flagged high-speed yacht "Clats" last June 24.

The sailboat was shattered and capsized immediately, according to the initial report of the Port Authority of Glyfada to the embassy. Nikko Dizon

DFA honors Fil-Am soldier slain in Iraq

FOREIGN SECRETARY ALBERTO Romulo offered his condolences to the family of a Filipino-American soldier who was killed in Iraq recently, praising him for helping defend democracy, a government statement said yesterday.

Romulo has directed a Philippine consular official in the US to hand-deliver his letter to the family of Army Spc. Christopher Rose in San Francisco, a Department of Foreign Affairs state-

ment said.

In his letter, Romulo said the Philippines honors Rose's "bravery and commitment in helping secure a free, stable and democratic Iraq."

"Christopher represented the best of the Filipino-American—freedom-loving, independent and goal-oriented," Romulo said.

President Macapagal-Arroyo is among US President George W. Bush's closest allies in the US-led war on terror and has strongly supported joint Philippine-US

counterterror exercises in the country involving hundreds of American soldiers, including many who served in Iraq.

Rose was killed by a roadside bomb in Baghdad on June 29, the only soldier who died in that incident, US military officials said. He had been injured a month earlier by another roadside bomb.

Rose was in the 4th Infantry Division, based at Fort Hood, Texas. He was the sixth Filipino-American sol-

dier to die in Iraq, the Department of Foreign Affairs said.

Rose, a Vallejo native who grew up in San Francisco, was sent to Iraq in December for his first tour of duty and was scheduled to go home in October.

He reportedly told family members when he enlisted in June 2004 that he wanted to make a difference, although many of them didn't want him to go to Iraq.

His father, Rudy Rose, who is from Aklan, said Rose has been

haunted by an incident a few months after arriving in Iraq in which he shot and killed several people running from the scene of a roadside bomb that exploded, following standard procedure. When troops examined the bodies, they found they were children—one had a mobile phone modified to function as a remote detonation device.

The killing "bothered him terribly, because they were just kids," Rudy Rose said. AP

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'Batasan 5' again on watchlist

ACTING ON A Directive from the Department of Justice, the Bureau of Immigration yesterday said it has again placed on its watchlist five leftist lawmakers facing rebellion charges in connection with their alleged participation in an abortive coup against the government last February.

The watchlist order against the so-called Batasan 5—party list Representatives Satur Ocampo, Teodoro Casino and Joel Virador of Bayan Muna, Rafael Mariano of Anakpawis and Liza Maza of Gabriela—was issued Friday by BI Associate Commissioner Roy Almoro.

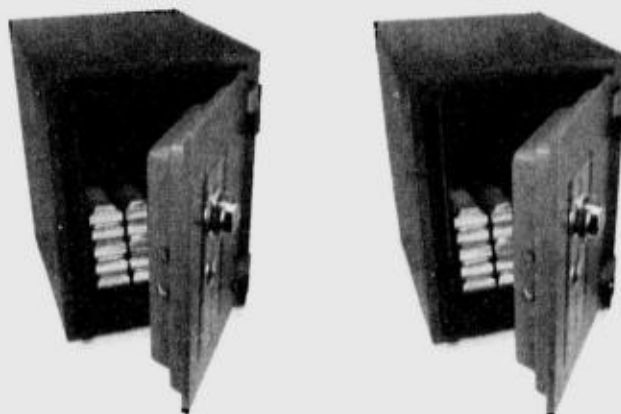
As a result of the watchlist order, the party-list congressmen will need to first secure a clearance from DOJ before they could leave the country, Almoro explained.

On June 24, Ocampo, armed with a permit from the Makati regional trial court, was allowed to go on a trip to Switzerland, where he attended a United Nations human rights conference. But not before immigration authorities tried to stop him from leaving. Immigration authorities at the airport initially refused to let him board his plane because of a hold-departure order issued by the bureau. *Jerome Aring*



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Angel Aquino, Mother
St. Luke's International Institute for Neurosciences Patron

When her daughter was diagnosed with hydrocephalus 11 years ago, Angel Aquino knew where to get the best medical treatment. "I wanted the best treatment and attention for my daughter," says Angel Aquino. "The first thing that came to my mind was St. Luke's Medical Center."

Angel's daughter successfully underwent brain surgery at St. Luke's International Institute for Neurosciences. "The doctors and nurses were really helpful and attentive. They're very thorough in caring for patients, especially children," Angel says.

"St. Luke's state-of-the-art medical equipment matters a lot, especially when it's your daughter's life on the line. I'm glad I didn't have to bring my daughter abroad for medical treatment. Filipinos are very fortunate that one of the world's best hospitals is right here in the country," says Angel.

"I'm glad I brought my daughter to the best doctors and the best hospital in the Philippines—St. Luke's Medical Center."



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2 expert lip readers solve Zidane head butt



From page A1

Materazzi had uttered to France's Zinedine Zidane just before the French captain gave the Italian defender a brutal head butt in Sunday's World Cup final.

With Italy and France tied at 1-1, more than a billion people watching soccer's biggest spectacle on television around the world were stunned when Zidane suddenly floored Materazzi with a head butt to the chest in the 110th minute.

The French captain was sent off with a red card, missing a decisive penalty shootout in which he would have been expected to score one of his team's five spot kicks. Italy went on to win the shootout, 5-3, and its fourth World Cup title.

Exhaustive study

To get to the bottom of the controversy, The Times newspaper hired Jessica Rees, a renowned lip reader frequently summoned as an expert witness at criminal trials in Britain, to study a tape of Sunday's match.

"After an exhaustive study of the match video, and with the help of an Italian translator, Rees claimed that Materazzi called Zidane 'the son of a terrorist whore' before adding 'so just f--- off' for good measure," the newspaper said.

The Daily Mail on Tuesday said that it had also engaged the services of a lip reader who reached the same conclusion as Rees. The British newspaper did not identify the lip reader.

The Brazilian television channel Globo had a different account: Zidane's moment of madness in his last match before retiring may have been provoked by Materazzi who called the French star's sister a prostitute.

Fantastico, a program on Globo, also employed expert lip readers who said footage of the incident showed the Italian defender twice insulted Zidane's sister.

Materazzi version

An Italian newspaper, however, reported on Tuesday that Materazzi had acknowledged that he "insulted" Zidane because, according to the Italian stalwart, the French captain was super arrogant.

"I held his shirt... for only a few seconds, he turned toward me and scoffed at me, looking at me with super arrogance, up and down: 'If you really want my shirt, you can have it later,' (Zidane said) It's true, I shot back with an insult," La Gazzetta dello Sport quoted Materazzi as saying.

Asked whether he had insulted Zidane's sister or mother, Materazzi said it was an "insult of the kind you will hear dozens of times and that just slips out on the ground."

"I certainly didn't call him a terrorist. I am ignorant... I don't even know what an Islamic terrorist is; my only terrorist is her," the Italian defender said, pointing to his 10-month-old daughter who was sleeping next to him on the plane that took the Italian team back to Italy.

"I certainly did not mention Zidane's mother; for me a mother is sacred," he added.

In recalling the incident at Berlin's Olympic Stadium, the Corriere della Sera newspaper said that Materazzi lost his mother when he was 14 and that he would certainly not have insulted Zidane's.

Zidane's agent on Monday said the assault on Materazzi was provoked by a "very serious" comment made by the Italian defender.

Racist remark

In Paris, the antiracism advocacy group SOS-Racism on Monday issued a statement quoting "several very well informed sources from the world of football" as saying Materazzi called Zidane a "dirty terrorist." It demanded that the international football federation Fifa investigate and take any appropriate action.

Fifa, which reviews all red cards at the World

Cup, would not comment on the specifics. "This is a disciplinary matter now. I can't give any statements now," Fifa spokesperson Markus Sieglar said.

Whatever it was that Materazzi had uttered, it was enough to infuriate Zidane, who still won the Golden Ball as the World Cup's best player.

"Zizou is someone who reacts to things," said Aime Jacquet, Zidane's coach at the 1998 World Cup. "Unfortunately he could not control himself. It's terrible to see him leave this way."

Zidane's red card was anything but unusual. He was sent off 14 times in his career at the club and international level.

At the 1998 World Cup, he stomped on a Saudi Arabian opponent. Sitting out a two-match ban, he came back to score two goals against Brazil in the final. Five years ago with Juventus, he head butted an opponent in a Champions League match against Hamburger SV after being tackled from behind.

Mixed reaction

The reaction to Sunday's outburst was mixed in France. President Jacques Chirac called Zidane "a genius of world football," but former Sports Minister Marie-George Buffet said Zidane's aggressive act was unforgivable for its effect on children watching the game.

Most French, however, have forgiven Zidane for his savage head butt, according to a poll published on Tuesday.

More than half of the 802 respondents said they understood Zidane's reaction, according to the poll conducted by telephone by CSA polling agency published in Tuesday's Le Parisien newspaper. No margin of error was given.

Adored

Zidane, whose parents immigrated to France from Algeria, became a proud symbol of a multicultural France and is adored in Algeria.

The lashing is nothing new to Zidane, who grew up playing on concrete in an impoverished immigrant neighborhood of Marseille, where fouls and insults are met with instant retribution.

"You can take the man out of the rough neighborhood, but you can't take the rough neighborhood out of the man," French striker Thierry Henry said after the final. Reports from AFP and AP

SWS: Dissatisfaction ...

From page A1

two quarters—from -30 in December 2005 and -25 in March 2006.

Except in Metro Manila

Net satisfaction scores for the President in the latest SWS survey rose in all areas, except in Metro Manila where it declined further to a record low of -48 in June from -37 in March.

Ms Arroyo's net satisfaction rating in the Visayas rose to +2, from -12 in March. Similarly, the President's net scores in the rest of Luzon improved to -13 from -23, and in Mindanao to -7 from -32.

Ms Arroyo's satisfaction rating rose among the "masa," registering a -10 net satisfaction

score in June among the D class and -22 among the E class.

Decline in ABC classes

But her net score declined among the middle to upper ABC classes, which gave Ms Arroyo a net satisfaction rating of -27 in June, the second lowest on record, following her -34 ratings in December 2000 and May 2005.

The SWS survey was conducted from June 22 to 28, using face-to-face interviews of 1,200 adults divided into random samples of 300 each in Metro Manila, the rest of Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao.

The survey had a margin of error of 3 percentage points for the national percentages and 6 percentage points for the area percentages.

Kate Pedrosa, PDI Research

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New PSG...

From page A1

Bangit, who served more than three years as President Arroyo's chief security officer, is going to the Army's 2nd Division based in Tanay, Rizal, where he will serve as assistant division commander.

Not known to GMA

In a phone interview, Bangit described Prestoza as a "very fine, professional officer" with 23 years of experience in intelligence work.

Prestoza was recommended to the top PSG position by the Board of Generals and Ms Arroyo approved the recommendation, according to Bangit.

Asked whether the President personally knew Prestoza, the outgoing PSG chief said he did not think so.

Ms Arroyo will be present at today's ceremonies at the PSG headquarters marking the turnover of command.

From Pangasinan

A native of San Nicolas, Pangasinan, Prestoza served as element leader and flight commander at the Philippine Air Force Flying School at Fernando Air Base in Lipa City.

He held various positions at the Isaf, including chief of operations and intelligence branch Task Force 63; assistant MIG21; COM-MEL Staff officer; Isaf; chief Operations and Intelligence Division; Group Commander MIG19, MIG24, among others.

Prestoza served as Philippine Air Force Representative to the United Nations Command (REAR) in Tokyo and as Air Attache in Washington D.C.

At present, he is chief of the Office of the Ethical Standard and Public Accountability, Isaf, and chair of the Personnel Management Board, Isaf.

Many awards

Prestoza has received three distinguished service star awards, with three others pending approval, seven bronze cross medals and 24 military merit medals, among many other awards. He has also won an Outstanding Achievement Medal.

Prestoza is married to Lilian Obillio and they have three children.

Storm Florita moves north

TROPICAL STORM FLORITA GATHERED strength yesterday as it moved north of the Philippines on its way to Taiwan.

Packing maximum sustained winds of 85 kph and gustiness of 100 kph, Florita was spotted by satellite images at 740 km east

of Aparri, Cagayan.

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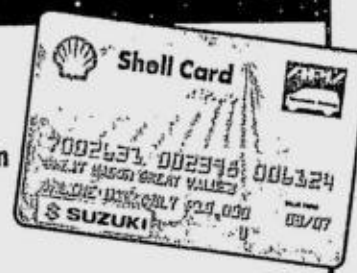
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Senga waited 2 hours, report AFP probbers

From page A1

Senga had issued earlier denials of his reported vacillation and repeated yesterday his version of the meeting with Brig. Gen. Danilo Lim, commander of the crack First Scout Ranger Regiment, and Marine Col. Ariel Querubin on the night of Feb. 23. (See story on this page.)

"I already said that in our meeting, I told them that they should not push through with their plan," Senga told the INQUIRER.

But Scout Rangers officers were reportedly sending text messages to Lim to ask about his meeting with Senga.

Lim reportedly texted Maj. Jason Aquino, who was the Scout Rangers operations chief at the time, saying, "Nag-usap kami, maganda (We talked, it was good)."

'OK na si Senga'

In an affidavit, Aquino said Capt. Joey Fontiveros messaged him around 10 p.m. saying, "OK na si Senga." When Aquino asked Lim to confirm this, Lim reportedly replied, "OK."

The panel report said it took Senga two hours before he called his service commanders to a meeting after hearing from Lim about the plan to disavow loyalty to Ms Arroyo to avert bloodshed.

During that crucial interval—between the time Senga met with Lim and Querubin and his emergency meeting with his commanders—word reached other officers that Senga had agreed to lead the military in withdrawing support from Ms Arroyo.

This timeline of the events of Feb. 23 and 24, which led Ms Arroyo to declare a weeklong state of emergency, is based on the draft report of the eight-man fact-finding panel headed by AFP

Inspector General Rear Admiral Rufino Lopez.

The military has not released its official timeline of the events leading to Feb. 24. Senga has also not given his version of the events, other than his denials.

The INQUIRER obtained a copy of the 33-page draft and unsigned Lopez report that was leaked last week, at the same time that a video of Lim's declaration of withdrawal of support was shown over ABS-CBN.

38 officers, 27 EMs

The draft report indicated that at most, 38 officers—20 from the Army's Scout Rangers and 18 from the Marines—and 27 enlisted personnel may be tried before a court-martial for plotting to oust Ms Arroyo by joining the EDSA protest rallies during the People Power anniversary on Feb. 24.

Lopez submitted an official 43-page report to Senga on Friday. Senga said he would act on the board's recommendations "as expeditiously as possible" but refused to release a copy of the report in the meantime.

Palace caught flat-footed

Based on Lopez's findings, Malacañang was caught flat-footed by news that elite units in the military and police were poised to break away from their Commander in Chief.

Ms Arroyo was scheduled to visit the Scout Rangers headquarters in Bulacan on Feb. 25.

Based on the timeline stated in the report, Lim and Querubin disclosed their plans to Maj. Gen. Rodrigo Macatangay, deputy chief of staff for Intelligence, around 6 p.m. of Feb. 23.

Around 7 p.m., Macatangay brought Lim and Querubin to see Senga at his

office at the General Headquarters Building in Camp Aguinaldo.

"They discussed the same things that they have disclosed earlier to Maj. Gen. Macatangay; that there were junior officers who are planning to join the mass protest action on the following day, Feb. 24," the report said.

The report said Lim and Querubin planned to lead their officers and men who would march to EDSA in uniform but with their firearms' muzzles down and while they declare a withdrawal of support.

Lim and Querubin reportedly also mentioned that Chief Supt. Marcelino Franco, commander of the Philippine National Police Special Action Force and Maj. Gen. Renato Miranda, then Marine commandant, were part of the plan.

The report did not say how long the meeting lasted. But apparently Lim and Querubin stayed at the Office of the Chief of Staff while Senga went to the CSAFP Quarters.

Senga set an emergency meeting with the commanders of the Army, Navy and Air Force at the gazebo at the CSAFP Quarters at 9 p.m.

Meeting delayed

He reportedly called up Air Force chief Lt. Gen. Jose Reyes around 7:45 p.m. and Army chief Lt. Gen. Hermogenes Esperon Jr. at 8:30 p.m.

The report did not say what time he called up Navy chief Vice Adm. Mateo Mayuga, who was hosting a dinner party for his Indonesian counterpart at the time.

When asked if the timeline indicated in the report was correct, whether he waited nearly two hours after he talked to Lim and Querubin before he held an emergency meeting with the service commanders, Senga said:

"No, I called for a meeting im-

mediately but they did not get there right away. And they did not come in at the same time so we had to wait for the others," he said.

Denials

Senga earlier vehemently denied to the INQUIRER that he ever agreed to the withdrawal of support and to lead the transition government that would replace the Arroyo administration.

"That would never happen," he had stressed.

According to the report, Reyes arrived at 9 p.m., Macatangay shortly later, and Esperon at 9:30 p.m. Mayuga did not come until 11 p.m.

Then Senga broke the news about Lim and Querubin's disclosure.

"(Reyes) averred that the participation of the military and the police in the mass protest action should not be allowed as it might have a snowball effect on the military," the report said.

Options discussed

"After they were briefed on the situation, options on how to prevent the plan from being executed were discussed. One of the options was to talk to BGen Lim and Col. Querubin and convince the two not to push through with their plans," the report went on.

Upon Esperon's suggestion, Franco and Miranda were called into the meeting.

Franco arrived at 10:30 p.m. and confirmed the SAF would move. He reportedly told the group "the success of the march will depend on the CSAFP (Senga's) concurrence and that they too do not want bloodshed."

Mayuga and Miranda arrived at 11 p.m. Senga reportedly asked Miranda if he could stop his men, and Miranda replied he is "for the Constitution and for the chain of command but will

follow the will of the people."

Senga's order

Senga reportedly called Lim and Querubin who arrived at 11:30 p.m.

The two reportedly disclosed their plans. Lim reportedly also confirmed he had already made a taped message of his withdrawal of support.

The report said Senga told Lim, Querubin, Miranda and Franco to stop their plans. Lim and Querubin however insisted they could no longer hold their men back.

The following discussion reportedly took place:

Lim to Senga: "Sir eto lahat, hindi ito magkakagulo kung magiging solid tayo. Kung gusto nating solid e we might have to do it on our own and probably the CSAFP can provide the leadership."

Senga: "I don't think so. Paano naman yan kung gagalaw kayo e di magkakagulo tayo?"

Lim and Querubin: "Sir, hindi tayo magkakagulo kung magkakaisa tayong lahat. The Armed Forces will join together and make the unity move under the CSAFP. Kung magkaisa tayo, magkakasama tayo. You provide the leadership para wag tayong magkakagulo."

Saving face

Lim blurted out: "Sir, hindi na kami makakaatras. Mawawalan na kami ng mukha!"

Esperon: "Bakit kayo lang ba ang may mukha?"

Shortly past midnight, Senga reportedly gave his final warning to Lim, Querubin, Miranda and Franco.

"Your plan must not push through. Tell the men of its repercussions while there is still time. If you do (push through), I will just give you one order, Go back to barracks. If not, you have drawn the lines of battle," Senga reportedly said.

The meeting adjourned around

12:30 a.m. of Feb. 24. Miranda, Lim and Querubin reportedly headed to the Marine headquarters in Fort Bonifacio where Miranda called all Marine officers to an emergency meeting at 1 a.m.

Marine Col. Jonathan Martir reportedly heard Lim telling someone on the phone to consolidate at the Marine headquarters at 4 a.m. Martir also said he heard Querubin tell someone on the phone, "Wala talaga itong si Esperon. Okey na si Senga. Hawak na namin si Senga dumating si Esperon nagbago ang isip."

'Neutralize'

While the Marines were holding a meeting, Senga convened a meeting at the AFP War Room around 1:45 a.m. to check the troops "and prepare to suppress or neutralize the power grab."

At the meeting were Esperon, Mayuga, Reyes, Macatangay, Maj. Gen. Pedro Ramboanga Jr., the deputy chief of staff for operations (J3), National Capital Region Command 1 Gen. Alan Cabalkinto (retired) and Col. Gaudencio Pangilinan, head of the AFP Counter-Intelligence Group.

Lim in custody

Without Senga's support, the plan fizzled out. Miranda and Querubin failed to get the support of most of the other officers. Lim returned to his quarters that was surrounded by the Military Police.

Around 4:30 p.m., Lim was placed under the custody of the CSAFP reportedly upon his request. He has been restricted to quarters since then.

Shortly before dawn, news broke out in the media that the military had foiled a coup plot by Lim and Querubin. Querubin denied there was such a plot. Lim could no longer be interviewed at the time.

With a report from Nikko Dizon

Lim transferred to maximum security jail

From page A1

sides using force."

It was the first time that the West Point-trained fighter had spoken publicly about the video tape which was aired recently on local television.

Military officials said the tape was to have been aired in February to coincide with an alleged plot by rebel soldiers to stage a coup with the supposed backing of leftist conspirators. The attempt was also to have allegedly coincided with the Feb. 24 anniversary of the 1986 People Power revolution.

Initially refusing to talk about the video, Lim later admitted that he informed Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Generoso Senga and the other service commanders of the tape on the evening of Feb. 23. (Related story on Page A1.)

"I never hid that tape's existence," Lim told reporters after his second appearance at the NBI since the probe into his supposed role in the coup plot began in March.

"Like what I said the first time ... there was no plan to stage a coup

d'etat. There was no plan to take over facilities by way of arms and violence," Lim said.

"The video was an expression of my freedom, but it has no significance anymore because it was never aired."

Lim said he and his soldiers only planned to hold a peaceful march, "as guaranteed by the Constitution."

Lim also met with Justice Secretary Raul Gonzales.

In a statement, Lim's counsel Vicente Verdadero said his client had no intention of turning into a state witness.

Lopez report

Verdadero said only a person who had committed an offense and had been charged could be a state witness.

"Lim has not committed any crime, and is not charged with any, so he can't be (a state witness)," Verdadero said.

The lawyer said Lim had sought a meeting with Gonzales because he had information on the so-called "Lopez report," which was leaked to the media a few days ago and which reportedly contained

recommendations for Lim and more than 50 other officers and men to be court-martialed.

Silent Caringal

"Lim wanted the Department of Justice to conduct the probe into the unauthorized leakage, thus his request for a meeting with Secretary Gonzales," Verdadero said.

Col. Januario Caringal, who was said to be the officer in uniform standing behind Lim when the general read his statement on video, also appeared at the NBI but declined to talk to reporters.

In a sworn affidavit submitted to an NBI task force headed by lawyer Reynaldo Esmeralda, Caringal invoked his constitutional right to remain silent and refused to comment on the videotape.

"I should first be furnished a copy of the said videotape, which must first be authenticated in a manner provided for by law. Before I could make intelligible comments regarding thereto," Caringal, assigned to the 2nd Marine Brigade Station in Iligan City, said in his affidavit.

Following his appearance at the NBI, Lim was transferred under

heavy security to the Tanay detention facility. He had been restricted to his quarters in Fort Bonifacio since Feb. 24.

The Tanay facility was recently renovated to beef up its security.

Bacarro declined to give details about the transfer, citing "security considerations."

Authorities are apparently concerned that Lim's supporters might try to rescue their leader.

Another officer

Also transferred last night to Camp Capinpin in Tanay was Maj. Jason Aquino, former Scout Rangers operations chief, and an enlisted personnel facing an administrative case.

The Tanay facility is located inside the compound of the Army's 2nd Infantry Division headquarters. It had served as the detention facility of Estrada before he was allowed to stay in his nearby rest house, just across the highway, while undergoing trial.

A lesson for plotters

Sen. Joker Arroyo said the case of Lim should serve as a lesson to

future coup plotters.

Without mentioning names, Arroyo said that an attempt by any military officer to withdraw allegiance from the President and mount a coup was fraught with risks and he might end up imprisoned if he failed.

On the other hand, if the rebellion succeeded, the officer would escape any charges and might even have a voice in the new government, he added.

"Does an officer who announces that he is withdrawing his support from the Commander in Chief commit an offense? Of course, he does," the maverick administration senator said in a statement.

"When one puts on a uniform, he has the duty to obey his superior officers and be bound by the chain of command without which no army can exist. He cannot break from the ranks at will and do or not do as he sees fit."

Arroyo, however, indicated that getting charged in court would largely hinge on whether the rebellion succeeded or not.

"Thus, an officer and his group who go against the Commander in

Chief because they do not like the way the President runs the country, may do so but such is fraught with risks. If their move succeeds, then their action becomes legal, they write the terms of the new government," Arroyo said, without mentioning Lim's name.

"If their move fails, then they suffer the consequences," he added. "Stripped of legalism, it's a winner-take-all thing, or in other words, a dangerous zero-sum game."

That was why, then AFP Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Fidel V. Ramos and other officials who rebelled against Ferdinand Marcos, triggering the 1986 People Power Revolution, and then AFP Chief Gen. Angelo Reyes and other military top brass who withdrew their support from then President Joseph Estrada in 2001 were never charged, the senator said.

"They were not punished and on the contrary, rewarded," he said, citing the axiom that "rebellion is illegal if it fails but legal if it succeeds."

"This is a dictum in political science," the senator said. With a report from TJ Burgonio

'Genital injuries consistent' with rape

From page A1

pected to resume her testimony—and her eventual grilling by the defense—after Fortun's cross-examination.

Very old method

In his testimony on June 29, Ortiz, another witness for the prosecution, also used the term "consistent."

Ortiz was the medico-legal officer of the James Gordon Memorial Hospital in Olongapo City who examined Nicole on the morning of Nov. 3, 2005, some 33 hours after the alleged rape.

But while Fortun agreed with Ortiz on the nature of Nicole's injuries, she cast doubt on the findings of the Philippine National Police's crime laboratory with respect to Nicole's panties and the used condom found stuck in the garter.

The PNP Crime Lab concluded that these two items bore no traces of semen when examined—a point earlier raised by the lawyers of the four accused US Marines when they grilled crime investigator Ramon Page on June 22.

But according to Fortun, the PNP reached that conclusion using the Florence method, "a very, very old" mode for detecting semen that is "no longer used in modern laboratories today."

She described it as "not reliable and not specific," and said "fake negative results are common" using the method.

'Suppressing' truth

Defense lawyer Jose Justiniano (counsel for Lance Cpl. Keith Silkwood) rose to object and said Ursua was "suppressing evidence" pertaining to the PNP Crime Lab report.

But Ursua countered that in eliciting that view from Fortun, the prosecution merely wanted the court to appreciate that the method in question was "antiquated."

She said it was actually the defense that was "suppressing the truth about science" in trying to stop Fortun's testimony.

Commenting on Nicole's five contusions on the limbs that Ortiz had noted, Fortun said one found near her right wrist and two more on her left upper arm were probably caused by a blunt, rounded object, such as "a fingertip."

She said she could not easily tell what might have caused the two other contusions near Nicole's right knee for lack of additional descriptions in Ortiz's report.

Blunt force

Like Ortiz, Fortun said all these contusions, being grayish to black, were "recent," or sustained one or two days prior to Nicole's examination.

As to the genitals, Fortun said "the contusions on both sides of the labia minora ... indicate injury due to a blunt force, a result of forcible penetration of the opening of the vagina with a blunt object, most common of which is an erect penis."

Asked if there was a relationship between this type of vaginal contusion and a woman's "sexual response," Fortun said such injuries were unlikely if sex were consensual.

This is because, she said, the woman would "angle or tilt" her pelvis in a way that would be more receptive to the thrust of an erect penis, and that the vagina itself would have "natural lubrication."

Such "normal" bodily responses "prepare (the woman) for nontraumatic sexual intercourse," Fortun said, adding:

"It is typically absent in rape victims. That's why genital injury occurs."

Fortun also said the vaginal contusions might be as recent as those found on the limbs because, as Ortiz had reported, Nicole experienced "unusual tenderness"—or pain—when he conducted a manual examination.

Defense lawyer Francisco Rodrigo (counsel for S/Sgt. Chad Carpentier) made several attempts to block Fortun's analysis for supposedly being hypothetical.

Rodrigo also asked why Fortun

was being allowed to give an opinion "based on the opinion of other experts."

But Pozon allowed Fortun to continue quoting from her materials, interrupting her only once to tell her to interpret the medico-legal report without making reference to the alleged crime.

This was after Fortun had described the limb contusions as "consistent with the alleged circumstances" in which Nicole was brought to Ortiz for examination.

'Nonvirginal state'

Defense lawyer Antonio Rebosa (counsel for Lance Cpl. Dominic Duplantis) tried to show that the 22-year-old Nicole might have had the injuries prior to the night of Nov. 1, 2005.

Rebosa asked Fortun whether a woman with a lacerated hymen, such as Nicole had been found to be, could indicate that she was already in "nonvirginal state."

(He had earlier established, through Fortun's reply, that a lacerated hymen was "consistent with [sexual] intercourse," even if such an injury was inflicted 30 days prior to detection.)

Ursua objected, saying that a woman's virginity was immaterial to proving sexual assault, and that Philippine law even recognized marital rape.

But Pozon allowed Rebosa's ques-

tion.

Fortun replied: "We do not use virginal state in our medical findings and the condition of the hymen is not an indication of the sexual activity of women. Even in young children, they have found notches which, to an examiner, may be misconstrued as an indication of sexual activity."

Rebosa asked Fortun if she knew of statistics showing the number of women who denied having engaged in sexual activity despite having been found with a lacerated hymen.

Ursua objected, but Pozon again directed Fortun to answer.

Fortun: "I do not believe there are studies ... The thinking that the [condition] of a woman's hymen is indicative of her sexual activity is not valid anymore."

Arousal

Rebosa, also a doctor, proceeded to question Fortun on Nicole's genital injuries: "If a woman is fully aroused, could it be that she may not be fully lubricated? Is swelling [in the vaginal area] possible even if the sex was consensual?"

Fortun: "In that case, if a woman is uncomfortable and she is feeling pain, then she would have done something to make it stop. It would have been painful."

Rebosa then asked Fortun about the use of a condom during intercourse and whether or not it would

cause injuries.

(The defense had contended that a rapist would not use a condom in committing the crime. Ursua had read out the gist of published studies showing that sex offenders used condoms to evade arrest and prosecution.)

Rebosa: "If a woman is fully aroused and her partner is using a condom, would [her] lubrication decrease?"

Fortun: "I do not see how the use of a condom would decrease a woman's lubrication."

Rebosa: "Can a condom cause swelling even if the sex is consensual?"

Fortun: "It wouldn't be the condom that would cause the injury but the erect penis."

Women's rights

Justiniano went direct to discrediting Fortun, a consultant at the University of the Philippines-Philippine General Hospital's Women's Desk and the Child Protection Unit, two organizations providing counseling for women and children who have been victims of violence.

"Well, do you expect a Catholic priest to say something negative about Jesus Christ? She admitted that she is a member of that UP-PGH Women's Desk, and one of its missions is advocacy of women's rights. How can she be an impartial witness?" Justiniano said.

Mar Roxas cool to LP-NP coalition

SEN. MANUEL "MAR" ROXAS II yesterday dismissed possible talks for coalition between the Liberal Party and Nacionalista Party as "trial balloons" floated by senators who are running for reelection in 2007.

Roxas indicated he wasn't aware of, much less interested in any talks for

coalition between the LP wing under Senate President Franklin Drilon and the NP led by Sen. Manuel "Manny" Villar Jr.

"I only read what was in the newspapers and I have not been to any meeting or discussions about that. So I think these are trial balloons that will rise and fall according to the winds," he told reporters.

The senator, the party's executive vice president, said the possibility of the country's two oldest parties coalescing was merely the idea of senators who are seeking another term in next year's mid-term elections.

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Sirs and Mesdames:

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6 June 2006

"A.M. No. 03-05-01-SC. Re: New Code of Judicial Conduct for the Philippine Judiciary. The Court Resolved, upon the recommendation of the Philippine Judicial Academy, to REVISE the provision of Canon 4, Section 9 of the New Code of Judicial Conduct, as distributed to Judges and court personnel, so as to read as follows:

Confidential information acquired by judges in their judicial capacity shall not be used or disclosed for any other purpose not related to their judicial duties.

The Clerk of Court is hereby directed to publish the above correction."

Ynares-Santiago, J., on leave. (119)

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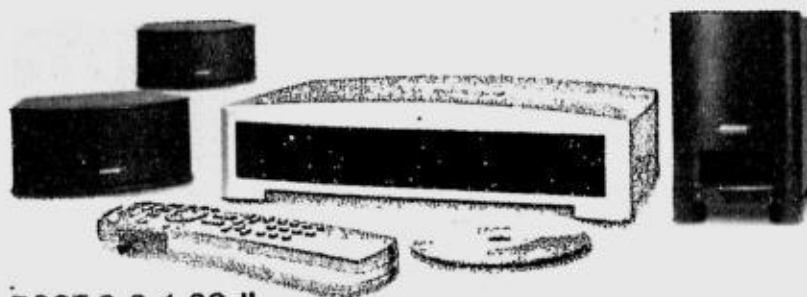
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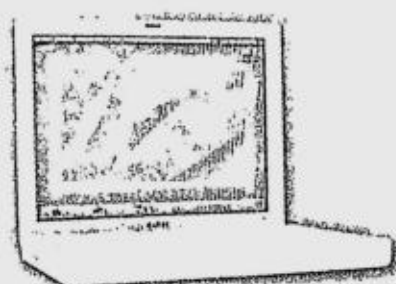
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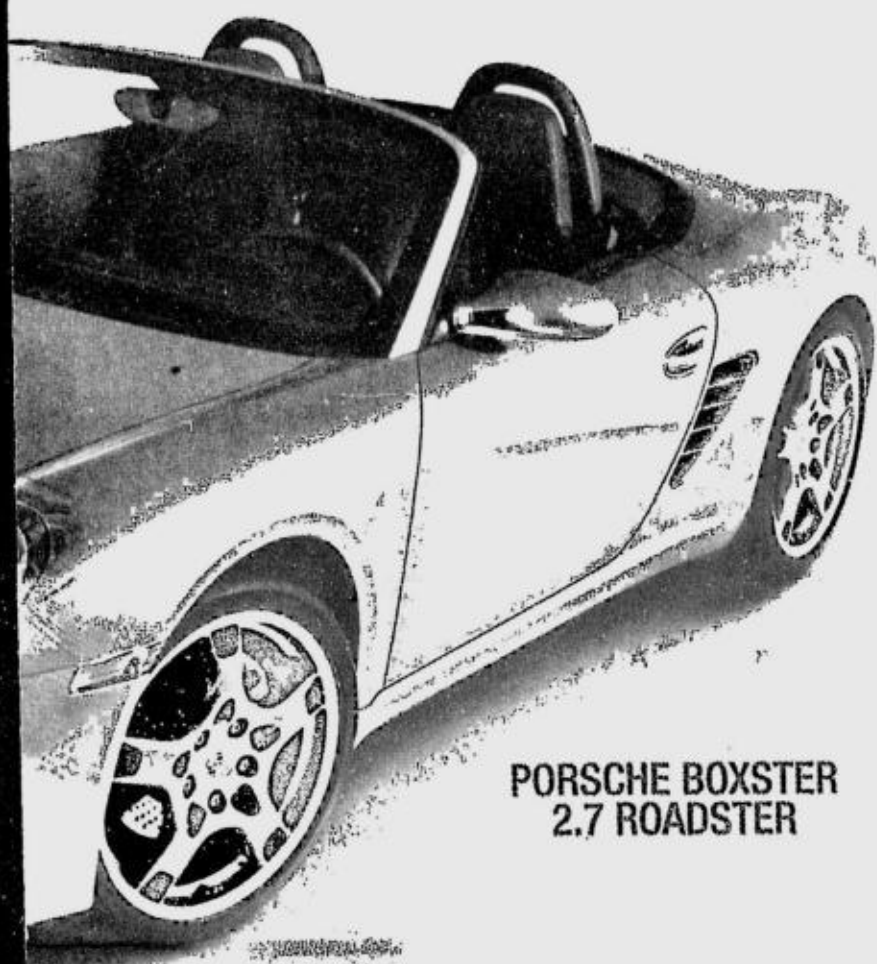
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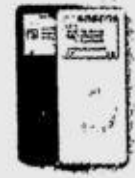
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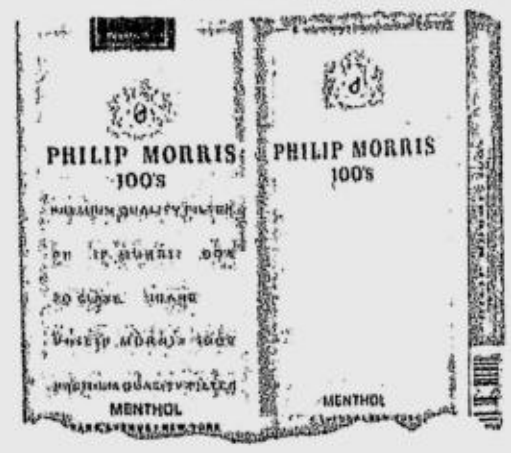


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Door to nowhere

INCENSE WAS USED IN ANCIENT ISRAEL TO COVER up the stench of the burning flesh of sacrificial offerings. The Catholic Church uses it to symbolize the Kingship of Christ, to represent the Mass as a "new and perfect sacrifice," and to represent the prayers of the faithful wafting up to heaven. In the political sense, to incense something is to becloud an issue with rhetorical smoke to cover up a stink.

EDITORIAL

Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye did the official incensing, after the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines issued its latest pastoral statement. "The government welcomes and ponders with humility and sincere appreciation the moral counsel from the pastoral letter. The message offers many points of agreement and shared objectives between the government and the Church," he said.

We have to wonder, considering the overall tone and content of that pastoral statement, what those "many points of agreement" are. We can think of only one: the ambivalence of the bishops with regard to this year's impeachment complaints, which leaves the administration in the agreeable position of enjoying the status quo.

But what did the bishops say? In their statement, the bishops made two points that they asserted to be their "clear and unambiguous" position on impeachment. First, in "all sincerity we respect the position of individuals or groups that wish to continue using the impeachment process to arrive at the truth." Second, "we are not inclined at the present moment to favor the impeachment process as the means for establishing the truth." As they explain it, this is because the bishops have discerned that "unless the process and its rules, as well as the mind-sets of all participating parties, pro and con, are guided by no other motive than genuine concern for the common good, impeachment will once again serve as an unproductive exercise, dismaying every citizen and deepening the citizen's negative perception of politicians—Left, Right and Center."

Clearly, then, the underlying message is that the last impeachment effort in 2005 so debased and discredited our political institutions that the bishops have to wonder if the country can afford more of the same. What would be required, in their view, for a credible impeachment effort would be rules that foster, and don't impede, the actual airing and deliberation on the charges, instead of legal gymnastics involving dates of filings and the manner in which the complaints have been drafted. Add to this their view that supporters of President Macapagal-Arroyo would have to examine the complaints on their merits alone, unimpeded by blind loyalty to Malacañang, and that the political opposition and other critics would have to set aside personal ill-feelings and even partisan interests, and the near-miraculous nature of what is required becomes clear. Ironically, these men of the cloth seem skeptical of such a political miracle taking place.

Which is, to be fair, something most supporters of impeachment have admitted all along. They see little hope the charges will prosper, but still cling to the hope that airing them at least helps them comply with their civic duties. Defenders of the President seem to be uninterested in any lesson in civics. Which is why Malacañang can praise their being condemned, in a sense, by the bishops. Moral criticism, if not backed by political action, can always be shrugged off or damned with faint praise.

When House Minority Leader Francis Escudero, speaking for the opposition, asked, "If they favor (the) search for the truth but not through impeachment, then through what means?" he reflected a reasonable puzzlement over the matter. In trying to be unambiguous, the bishops have introduced a new kind of ambiguity. How, indeed? Senate investigations have been blocked. Proposals for an investigative commission haven't prospered.

Majority Leader Prospero Nograles tried to be helpful: "The House or Congress is not a correct venue to find guilt or innocence. It's the courts that will decide guilt or no guilt, not Congress in an impeachment case because Congress decides, as a policy, whether good or bad, to remove an official," he said. Which means, for now, underlings can be charged in court, but the President of the Philippines can look forward to being immune from suit until 2010, and beyond political accountability with regard to impeachment. The truest meaning of "win-win," perhaps? For her, though not for the country.

The bishops opened a door to nowhere, and perhaps that is the most discouraging thing about their statement. It proves that the country is nowhere closer to a resolution of the crisis of legitimacy.



Is Maynilad overcharging its customers?

THE PASTORAL STATEMENT OF THE Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP), refusing to endorse the impeachment of President Macapagal-Arroyo, is a model in fence-sitting. The Tagalogs have a word for it: *kabaklaan*, which means neither here nor there.

In its pastoral statement, the 124-member CBCP said the impeachment process would be an "unproductive political exercise" in determining the truth. At the same time, however, it said it favored the search for the truth behind charges against GMA and that it respected "the position of individuals or groups that wish using the impeachment process to arrive at the truth." Yet it added that "we are not inclined at present to favor the impeachment process as the means of establishing the truth."

What do you make of that? Appears like double-talk to me. As far as I can make it out, the CBCP favors the "search for the truth" but it does not favor the "impeachment process to get to that truth."

How then do the bishops plan to get to the truth? Impeachment is the only constitutional process left for our people to find out the truth. All other processes have been shut out by the Arroyo administration and its political lackeys. Perhaps the bishops prefer the truth to be tortured out of GMA and her cohorts? Or do they expect her to have an attack of conscience and tell everything in the confession? There can never be an "attack of conscience" unless there is a conscience to attack, and the present Malacañang occupant has none.

Perhaps the good bishops want a repeat of Edsa I and Edsa II where the sitting presidents were both chased out of Malacañang, illegally, by a rabble. In the case of Edsa II, the cohorts of President Joseph Estrada prevented the impeachment process from arriving at the truth. And so the prosecutors walked out, illegally, and went to Edsa—which seemed to me to be a premeditated move—to achieve by violence (or the threat of one) what could not be achieved by the constitutional process of impeachment. Is that what the bishops want?

As I See It

Neal H. Cruz



Malacañang has a new name for "bribes," a device that it has been using successfully to get what it wants from congressmen, local government officials, private mercenaries and others with low intestinal fortitude. The new name is "aid."

It said that the gifts of rice, medicines and foodstuff they give to bishops are not "bribes" but "aid" for distribution to their constituents. A case of hair-splitting, really. By whatever name you call it, the purpose and effect are the same: to court the bishops.

Why else would they court aid to the poor through the bishops when there are social welfare agencies, health agencies and other public officials in every municipality? Why single out the bishops for this generous aid?

Is it because there are bishops who are not happy with GMA? Was it because the CBCP was going to hold a meeting to decide on its stand on the new impeachment complaints?

As you can see, the courting was successful: the CBCP did not endorse impeachment. It sat on the fence.

When the bribe was exposed, the bishops were divided whether or not to accept it. Is this another case of the spirit being willing but the flesh weak?

Members of the clergy have a big responsibility. The Catholic faithful look up to their bishops, priests and nuns for leadership. And they have to exercise leadership, and guide their flocks through the rocks and shoals of their faith. Their followers expect them to be steadfast and true always, free from the human frailties that others are heir to. They cannot let the people down.

Irony

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros



parties, pro and con, are guided by no other motive than genuine concern for the common good, impeachment will once again serve as an unproductive political exercise, dismaying every citizen, and deepening the citizen's negative perception of politicians."

Well, the CBCP's reaffirmation of its commitment to the quest for the truth—which can't mean anything else in the context of impeachment than the truth about the 2004 elections—indicates at least that the issue about GMA's legitimacy has not been settled in the bishops' minds. The CBCP continues to support every effort to ferret out that truth, not least by citizens' initiatives, such as those taken by Bishop Deoras and others to impeach GMA.

The operative phrase in the second paragraph is "in the light of previous circumstances." What the CBCP rejects is not impeachment per se but the kind of travesty we have been treated to in the past and we are bound to be treated to in the future. That is Congress overseeing impeachment with the expected results. That process can only be an unproductive political exercise, which will deepen the public's already deep distrust of politicians.

Lagdameo himself made that clear afterward: "The CBCP will not support an impeachment process if it will be done in the same way as it was done before." In short, what the CBCP is indicting is not impeachment, it is Congress, albeit, for quite understandable reasons, in a veiled way.

Having said this, however, the CBCP may not altogether be exculpated from dereliction of duty. At the very least, at a time when a confused flock is looking to it for guidance, the

Is Maynilad Water Services Inc. so desperately distressed financially that it is trying to cheat its water consumers? Artist Fernando Sena of San Francisco del Monte, Quezon City, thinks so. He wrote to this column to complain about his water bills and to warn the public against overbilling.

"Yesterday, I received the MWSI bill for June 6 to July 6, 2006," he wrote, "with consumption of 63 cubic meters amounting to P1,562.34 (Acct. 51987439). I was shocked to read this billing because, based on my daily reading since January this year, I have consumed only 37 cubic meters from June 6 to July 6, 2006, computed by deducting the 4,109 previous reading from the 4,146 present reading."

What happened? The MWSI reading showed the same 4,109 previous reading but there was no present reading. Instead, the consumption was listed as "AVERAGE." And that average was placed at 63 cubic meters.

Luckily for him, Sena was listing down his monthly water consumption on a calendar, so he had proof of the overbilling.

"I went to the MWSI office on Del Monte Avenue to complain," he continued, "showed them my calendar. When they saw the calendar, they said 'ina-average nila ang reading.' They asked me to pay only a partial amount of P700 and 'ayusin na lang daw nila ang billing' next month."

"My point of telling this to you is to advise the public to list down their water meter reading every day and even the Meralco readings para alam nila ang consumption nila."

"Sila dapat po 'yung di nag-reread ng meter, di lugi po sila dahil bayad sila ng bayad kahit walang batayan ang billing? Paano kung umuwi ng probinsiya ang maybahay ng three weeks, e kung average bill ang gagawin nila e di lugi ang consumer?"

"Kung sa bawat consumer, ipagpalagay nating P50 ang dagdag sa bill, a di malaking pera po ang kita nila. Paano po kung P200 or P500 bawat consumer ang dagdag, a di mas malaki and mapupunta sa MWSI?"

least it can do is not confuse it some more. A clearer and more emphatic reaffirmation of the importance of morality in public life was due them. If not indeed a clear and more emphatic statement about the need to resolve the legitimacy of government.

But more than that, as friends of mine have argued, couldn't the bishops have helped to guide the mind-sets of the participating parties toward a genuine concern for the common good, or at least a fear of God or the faithful in next elections, precisely by supporting an impeachment bid in Congress? Couldn't the collective voice of the bishops have been brought to bear on the congressmen to rethink their allegiance to Mammon rather than to God by suggesting that God will not look kindly on those who help themselves to the ballot boxes? The bishops' support for impeachment might not guarantee a change of heart among congressmen, not least because many of them have no hearts to change, but life offers no guarantees, only struggle.

And still more than this, if the CBCP is not supporting the kind of impeachment process we have to establish the truth, what efforts is it supporting by way of accomplishing that? Of course, answering that question invites questions about the separation of Church and State, but if you're going to talk about matters of faith and morals in public life anyway, why not hang for a sheep as for a lamb? It cannot be unknown to the bishops that the one burning issue in the minds of the faithful is: What do we do about someone who stole the vote? The way the CBCP has answered it opens itself up to charges that it's basically saying, "Bahala na kayo diyan. We ourselves can't do a thing about it." Or worse, "Pasensya na, we just want to play safe."

That is the richest irony of all. The bishops worry that by going through another unproductive political exercise we will only encourage the public to distrust politicians some more? They should worry that by taking the wishy-washy position that they have, they will only encourage the (un)faithful to distrust the clergy some more.

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 2006

OPINION

A1

Used and dropped quickly

THE BROADCAST LAST WEEK OF THE VIDEO showing Brig. Gen. Danilo Lim declaring his withdrawal of support from President Macapagal-Arroyo has revealed a far more extensive conspiracy to grab power than what the government had presented when she declared a state of national emergency last Feb. 24.

The extent of the conspiracy unfolded after the broadcast (1) forced some parties involved in the conspiracy to reveal (betray is a better word) their cohorts, and (2) led some persons close to the military plotters to disclose to the press details of the conspiracy.

The administration has no reason to claim that the tape justified its proclamation of national emergency. The unveiling of a wider conspiracy that included supporters in business shows that the administration rests on a very fragile foundation. The video, according to Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita, had given the Secretary "confidence to use martial law powers that President Marcos used" if a similar event occurs in the future.

After the busting of the Feb. 24 coup plot, the government is far from safe. The days of coup plotting are not behind us. Although some of the people alleged to have been involved in the conspiracy to, euphemistically speaking, "withdraw support from Arroyo" are now on the run, the networks of coup plotters in both the military and civilian sectors have only gone underground. It will require a wide-ranging search to flush them out.

Thus far, this is the picture emerging after the broadcast of the video and the reactions that followed it:

1. There is nothing in the video to suggest that the Left was involved in the planning of the withdrawal plot. The revelations of Roy Señeres, who has cast himself in the role of a "patriot" in acting as a pivot man in recruiting prominent citizens to urge Lim to withdraw support, and the statements of Lim himself show that the plot mainly involved

ANALYSIS

Amando Doronila

middle-class types, including businessmen and military people, without the participation of the Left. This evidence blasts Ms Arroyo's claim that PP 1017 aborted a Right-Left conspiracy. The evidence shows that the coup plot was a military Right-Centrist conspiracy. She has to discard this theory and invent new villains.

2. Lim now appears to be feeling that he had been betrayed by his middle-class cohorts (among them, Renato de Villa, Oscar Orbes, Ifi-go Zobel, Antonio Cojuangco of ABC-5, and RF Cruz, who were all tagged by Señeres as some of those involved in the plot). He seems to feel that he had been used and that when the plot was discovered, he was left twisting in the wind to face the consequences. They all have washed their hands and denied any kind of involvement, including Cojuangco, in whose studios at ABC-5 the tape was reportedly read by Lim in the presence of witnesses. Cojuangco has to explain whether he was just an enthralled listener to the stirring histrionics of Lim in the studio.

Abraham Purugganan, a colleague of Lim in the 1989 bloody coup attempt against President Corazon Aquino's government, read Lim's predicament correctly. He told the INQUIRER Lim was only used by interest groups "just like what happened to us in 1989." He said, "It's always that way. We were used and then dropped hastily—hanging in the air."

An unidentified source interviewed by the INQUIRER, apparently making a spin in defense of Lim, laid out the line that by agreeing to appear in the video, the general had averted a bloody con-



frontation between troops who had planned to storm Malacañang and forces loyal to the President. According to this version, Lim talked the "hot-headed" and impatient troops into dropping the planned attack last Feb. 22, and offered the plan to read the videotaped message to "avoid bloodshed." The soldiers accepted this option, said the source. The video was taped on Feb. 23. Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Generoso Senga is reported to have been shown the tape and briefed by Lim and Marine Col. Ariel Querubin about the "peace march" to Makati where the tape was to be read on Feb. 24. At that stage, Senga was non-committal when they asked for his support.

Another story in the INQUIRER said that on Feb. 19 Lim, in a meeting inside Fort Bonifacio with junior officers who wanted to attack Malacañang, cautioned the officers "to make sure that you win." According to an INQUIRER source, Lim said, "I have nothing against (your) plan, but you must make sure of victory." At another meeting inside the camp, Lim "shouted in anger at the junior officers and told them the plan was a 'big risk'."

This is a plausible story. It shows that Lim learned from their experience in 1989, that when the government crushed the coup, the rebels were all left in the lurch. In all these versions, Lim comes out as a hero, who saved the nation from plunging into violence instead of liberating it from a hated regime.

3. With braggadocio, Señeres after the broadcast of the video, came forward to admit that he was among those who urged Lim to withdraw his support from Ms Arroyo. What is more revealing than his self-posturing is that Señeres rebuked his cohorts who had ducked the fall-out from the broadcast of the video. He said he felt bad that Lim had been left on his own. "I'm fed up, considering what he did is not illegal."

This reaction illustrates what Purugganan and Lim have bitterly bemoaned: that they had been used in 1989 by "interest groups" with their own agenda to promote.

Old people in love

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David



er finding her Prince Charming, even if she has been living with a photographer (Alfred Vargas) for the past two years.

Gloria and Eddie's marital crisis sends ripples through the rest of the family. And Picache and Zubiri, particularly, must discover what their mother's rebellion against social convention means for them, as her daughters, and as sisters sharing a common lot.

Joey Javier Reyes, who wrote and directed "I Wanna Be Happy," has created a funny, heartwarming, entertaining movie that zips along despite a few lulls here and there, and still manages to convey a message or two. The script bears Reyes' trademark zingers and lightning-quick exchanges, though they don't quite scintillate in some scenes, a failing, I would venture, of the actors assigned to deliver the lines rather than of the dialogue itself.

Of the cast, Gloria and Eddie certainly deserve much of the credit for moving the film along. Gloria obviously relishes a role that doesn't require her to act the latter-day Madonna (as in Virgin Mary, not the singer), but in the few scenes that require poignancy and vulnerability, she is highly effective and affecting. "Manoy" is also visibly relaxed here, delivering his lines with throwaway aplomb and relish. When the two of them are in the scene, they chew up the scenery and steal the movie from everyone else.

AMONG THE supporting cast, Picache is, as always, able and capable. Too bad the script doesn't give her much chance to flesh out her character, but in scenes where she's given ample time, she fills up the screen with her luminosity and honesty. In one particular scene, when she's telling

her prayer group about her husband's latest act of public humiliation, she starts out tentatively, almost apologetic about the state of her marriage, and then transitions to a brave, decisive woman proud of the step she has taken.

It's an acting moment devoid of pretense or unnecessary drama, but still moving, maybe precisely because of Picache's restraint.

Zubiri seems to have sleep-walked through the movie, even if in her character, as the youngest child so fearful of rejection she has abandoned her fairy-tale dreams, she has a lot of material to work with. Her pace is matched by Vargas, who can't seem to work up the requisite romantic ardor. The movie slows down each time the story touches on the pair.

Perhaps to spice things up (and improve its box-office prospects), the movie is further brightened up by the inclusion of a slew of teen stars as the grandchildren. They do little to speed things along nor do they add complexity to the story, but they are decorative and lively and give the movie some youthful vibe.

STILL, this is an "old people's movie," but only in the sense that the leads are a pair of senior stars, something wholly unexpected from a local commercial film venture, and so welcome and worth encouraging.

"I Wanna Be Happy" reminded me of a Korean movie called "Too Young to Die," which also has for its leads a pair of septuagenarians. But while "I Wanna Be Happy" is a comedy, "Too Young to Die" is, would you believe, a sexually explicit film that explores old people's sexuality, proving that romance, attraction and loyalty are not the exclusive purview of the young, but remains relevant and necessary even among the very old.

At this point, I can only wish Reyes and producer Robbie Tan had ventured beyond the "sitcom" format and given Gloria and Eddie a chance to show a more complex portrait of a man and a woman growing old and yet remaining alive and vital. Then again, I suppose I should be grateful that "I Wanna Be Happy" was even made at all.

A US Army deserter in the Fil-Am War

IF YOU HAVE THE TIME TO OPEN THE US Library of Congress website and look under "American Memory," you will find Filipiniana online. Most engaging are very short films (less than a minute) on the Filipino-American War at the turn of the last century. Watching jerky, black-and-white shots of American soldiers chasing off the "Filipinos" is quite an experience, until background research reveals that some of the Fil-Am War films were not shot on location in the Philippines but done in New Jersey with Black Americans playing the role of Filipinos.

Now that we are celebrating 60 years of friendship with the United States and Japan, I try and look beyond the establishment of official diplomatic relations with other countries to the end of the 19th century, searching for Japanese and Americans who fought on our side during the Revolution against Spain and in the Filipino-American War. We have a list of Japanese military officers who served under Emilio Aguinaldo, but that requires further research for authentication. There were a number of Americans who deserted in the Philippines and joined Aguinaldo's army, but the details also have to be dug out of the past. Most intriguing is someone we find in Jose Alejandro's memoirs, "La senda del sacrificio":

"Fagan was a Negro giant more than six feet in height who deserted the American Army, taking with him all the revolvers that he could bring, and who served in our forces with the rank of captain. He did not know how to read or write, but he was a faithful companion. He was very affectionate and helpful to me, going to the extent of carrying me in his arms or shoulders when I, weakened by fevers and poor nutrition, had to cross rivers or ascend steep grades. The services which he rendered to me were such that they could only be expected from a brother or a son."

I had heard narrations of the feats of valor and the intrepidity of Fagan, but his most outstanding characteristic was his mortal hatred of the Ameri-

LOOKING BACK

Ambeth R. Ocampo



can whites. At the beginning, when our men did not know him yet very well, he asked them for the custody of several American white prisoners. Naturally, not knowing his intentions, they acceded to his petition. But later on, he reported to them that, because they were intending to escape, he was forced to kill them all. He was subjected to an investigation, but inasmuch as there were no witnesses to his act, they had to acquit him. From then on, they never permitted him to approach the prisoners, and some white deserters who were with Lacuna were warned to be careful when alone with Fagan. Undoubtedly, the Americans received information about these things and this must have been the reason Funston wanted him.

"They told me that when Fagan went with his guerrillas, whenever he was on horseback, it was a sign of advance or resistance, but when he got down from his horse, his soldiers already knew that it was the sign to retreat. I asked him the reason for this custom and he answered me that, while advancing in search of the enemy or while fighting, he did not want to tire unnecessarily his legs, but when it came to retreating, he had to leave the horse because his feet were faster than those of his horse. Besides, he could squeeze himself into and pass places which a horse could only go into with great difficulty."

"Fagan was very fond of carousals and drinking. In some of his escapades, he arrived in a small village on the banks of the Rio Chico of Pampanga. He looked for a guitar, and, with

some members of his guerrillas, he began to drink and serenade the women of the place. When the night was already very late, he went to bed in a small hut, sleeping with a companion. After a short while, his companion woke him up, telling him that he was hearing footsteps and voices of Americans. Fagan, who was half-asleep answered that he was dreaming and that his fear induced him to hear and see visions. Inasmuch, however, as his companion insisted, Fagan reluctantly stood up to peep out of the window, and there he really saw that the hut was surrounded by Americans. He lost no time in jumping out of the window and, taking advantage of the circumstances that the Americans could not fire for fear of wounding their own men in the dark, he selected the site nearest to the forest and with a revolver he shot his way out and escaped.

"Fagan spoke Tagalog very vividly and lived in the camp with a woman. One morning, this woman presented herself to me crying and showing me one cheek bitten off and saying that Fagan had done it. I sent for Fagan and asked him what happened."

"I was only dreaming, he answered. He related to me that he had dreamed that he was being surprised by the Americans and, not having the intention to be caught alive, he resisted as much as he could with punches, kickings and bitings, but his fury against the enemy had been rained on his companion."

"When our surrender was effected, I really felt very sorry to have to leave Fagan. I left him some twelve rifles for his defense. Later on, I learned that the Americans put a price on his head and he was assassinated, according to versions, in the mountains of Bongabon."

Cheek-biting reminds us of Mike Tyson and should spur further research.

Comments are welcome at aocampo@ateneo.edu

Two in one

SOME OF MY FRIENDS HAVE COMPLAINED ABOUT THE length of my column, but I'm afraid there's little I can do here. I have to use my assigned space which as you can see goes lengthwise. Sometimes you'll find two Youngblood columns fitting in here, and on the other end of this spread, two main editorials. So I thought that for today, I'd experiment with a "two in one" column. That's two separate articles, but on topics that are related.

Many of my friends ask why I even bother to read the pastoral letters from the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP). Many Filipino Catholics don't, and yet I think it is important that we do read and reflect on the letters, for whatever wisdom we can glean to guide us through the maze of our times.

Last year, at the height of the Garci scandal, I felt our bishops' pastoral letter was strong enough to warn President Macapagal-Arroyo of a restless nation, even as it urged us Filipinos to restrain ourselves. I felt it was a wise letter, and so this year, I was looking forward to another statement on the political situation.

I'm realistic enough to recognize bishops are politicians, too, playing a game like chess. Our bishops have power (even Ms Arroyo recognizes that), but I'm afraid their latest pastoral statement, notwithstanding the title "Shepherding and Prophesying in Hope," offers little to the nation.

On the moves to impeach the President, the statement says: "We are not inclined at the present moment to favor the impeachment process as the means for establishing the truth," mainly fearing that it will be another "unproductive political exercise, dismaying every citizen," and deepening the citizen's negative perception of politicians."

On the electoral reforms, they simply ask the President to take heed of calls for the resignation of some Comelec officials. Our bishops say they will support Charter change only through a constitutional convention, and they told that the 2007 elections should push through. (It's telling that the pastoral statement itself refers to the 1907 elections, a point to which I will return later.)

On extra-judicial killings, they nod their heads, saying they're happening but there are also killings perpetrated by insurgents. That last point about killings by insurgents is valid, but the letter fails to recognize that the government, which wields so much power, has done nothing to address the assassinations of activists and journalists.

Our bishops seem to have saved their strongest words to attack what they claim to be a siege on the Filipino family. "We are deeply troubled by attempts to legislate or make state policy ideas that tend to weaken or even destroy the values of marriage as union of man and woman, child bearing, the values formation of children, etc. . . We find them in pending bills about population, marriage and family, reproductive health, and sex education in schools."

Certainly, our bishops weren't referring to Ms Arroyo when they talked about the "state" here since the President has spoken out repeatedly against family planning and reproductive health, which will make Filipinos wonder: What are our bishops bawling the nation to save what they think is the Filipino family?

If our bishops truly care about the Filipino family, they would be supporting family planning and reproductive health programs in addition to vital political processes, the impeachment investigations included. Venting their ire on their own distorted perceptions of the reproductive health bill and sex education, they've lost sight of the real threats against the Filipino family, from the continuing massive export of Filipinos to the extra-judicial killings which have left literally thousands of orphans behind.

The CBCP statement comes through as cavalier, almost as if written in haste. The version I got, from the CBCP's website, is revealing in that it refers to the lapse to push through with the "1907" elections. Does that "lapse" speak of the time warp our bishops find themselves in, literally lost in another century?

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Making RP a vassal of Vatican

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO lost the moral ground to lecture local Church officials against engaging in politics when, in her visit to the Vatican, she presented to Pope Benedict XVI her program for constitutional change.

The Pope has a dual role: as head of state (the Vatican) and as a religious leader, that of the Catholic Church. The President made the Philippines appear as a vassal of the Vatican when she presented to the Pope her program for Charter change which is a political matter. As a foreign state, the Vatican has nothing to do with the internal affairs of our

country. As a religious leader, the Pope was right in not making any comment on the issue of amending our Constitution in accordance with the Vatican policy of staying away from politics.

President Arroyo was quoted by the local press as saying that the Pope was "very appreciative of our policies." In saying this she apparently was trying to make it appear that the Pope had blessed her political agenda, including the plan to shift from the presidential to the parliamentary form of government. The Vatican media, which covered exclusively the Pope's reception of the Presi-

dent and her entourage (our own media were excluded from the meeting), did not mention any papal benediction of Ms Arroyo's "policies."

President Arroyo should always remember that in her foreign trips she represents the entire Filipino people. She should not make the Filipinos appear subservient to or mendicant before any foreign government; instead she should always uphold our dignity as a people. Without dignity, there cannot be any redemption.

—MANUEL E. ALMARIO, mfalario@yahoo.com

Is Ombudsman really serious about her job?

I READ WITH GREAT INTEREST the INQUIRER's July 22 banner story which was headlined "Why single out Borra?" Indeed, why single out this election commissioner for the P1.3 billion anomalous purchase of election counting machines from Mega Pacific? Considering the gargantuan amount involved, I'm sure money "changed hands" as bribes.

As a former member of National watch, I attended an international anti-graft convention at the Asian Development Bank some time in the middle part of the 1990s. I learned from the delegates of "clean" countries like Finland, Sweden and Hong Kong, that they have effective laws on the forfeiture of ill-gotten wealth. According to these delegates, before they file any criminal or administrative case against public officials accused or suspected of corruption, they first seize their assets and forfeit them in favor of the government.

If the Ombudsman is serious about her job, she should do the same, so that the Comelec officials involved in the Mega Pacific deal cannot use their ill-gotten wealth to fight the government by hiring good lawyers, bribing investigators, prosecutors judges and justices; or (in the event that they are convicted) the parole officials of the Department of Justice.

I also challenge our legislators, if they are really serious in fighting graft and corruption in the government, to give more teeth to our laws on forfeiture and on the freezing of assets of corrupt officials (as their counterparts in progressive countries have done or are doing), so that there will be more public money to help our poverty-stricken people and to encourage foreign investors.

—PROCOPIO S. BELTRAN JR.,
2845 Juan Luna St.,
Gagalangin, Tondo, Manila

A small man with a big heart for the masses

I WAS IN THE GROCERY WHEN a friend broke the shocking news. Sotero Llamas, former New People's Army commander, National Democratic Front consultant and Bayan Muna's founding member and director for political relations, had been murdered. I burst into tears, oblivious of the staring people, as the image of a short, dark, asthmatic, jolly man with a boisterous laugh, flashed in my mind. The person I respected the most, my greatest teacher and dearest friend, was gone, brutally killed.

Ka Teroy and I met during his Bayan Muna days in 2001. We became very close friends since then. I served as his researcher-writer. Soon enough, I became his confidante and official biographer.

Last May 2, he was in Manila, along with two partners, for a business transaction. (He was into the scrap metal industry, where he would engage himself in manual labor, picking up soft drink cans on the street.) He was in his usual cheerful self. He spoke of his plans for his business, of becoming a university professor and of his life story turned into a movie.

Then his face turned grim, he was dismayed and alarmed that the government had included his name in its list of "enemies of the State." He said, "I have long tried to establish my legal status." Ka Teroy had resigned from the movement years before, ran for governor and lived a civilian life. "Now, they're resurrecting old cases against me. What more do they want?" he asked.

Ka Teroy said he was constantly under military surveillance. When asked why he refused to keep bodyguards or carry guns for protection, he replied, "I'm old. I have done what I could to serve my country well. I'm ready to die anytime, and if I do, make no mistake, the government is behind it. (It is) the only one with the motive—revenge!"

Ka Teroy was a celebrated NPA commander and comrade. His contributions to the leftist movement were enormous. He never incurred blood debts. He was one of the NPA leaders who did not participate in the Operation Missing Link. He helped numerous people in and out of the move-

ment. He was a decent and devoted family man. Thirty-three years of service left him with an untarnished reputation.

There was no reason for the Communist Party of the Philippines to kill him. The CPP has simply nothing to gain from such a suicidal act. The claim of the military and police that the death squads of the CPP are hitting its own ranks is not credible. The government had better come up with a more sound and logical propaganda.

We vehemently condemn this one more act of cowardice by anti-Left elements who cannot face us fair and square. We demand justice for Ka Teroy and all other victims of extra-judicial killings. The state must put an end to this political genocide in the country.

Ka Teroy left a legacy of unselfish commitment to serve the people and a friendship to cherish. I shall never forget this very special little man who had a very big heart for the Filipino masses.

—JANICE S. CAMBRI,
Bayan Muna-UP Diliman,
janice_cambri@yahoo.com

LGU welcomes help of League of Corporate Foundations

IT PLEASED ME TO READ THE INQUIRER report on the League of Corporate Foundations. (PDI, 7/4/06) I am a public servant whose sworn duty is to use all the resources of the local government for the benefit of its constituents, specifically in the fields of infrastructure, health and sanitation, livelihood, education, etc.

I believe that the INQUIRER is well aware of our people's plight and the difficulties and challenges our municipal government must face in our desire to deliver the basic services to our people. We are a community of 30,000 people, spread out in 14 barangays.

I write to commend the contin-


uing commitment of the LCF to lend a hand to our people in their effort to achieve progress and development for their country and families.

—SAUDI B. AMPATUAN JR.,
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Likening Pacman to a hero

I WOULD LIKE TO correct Kristina Yatco. (PDI, 7/3/06) Manny Pacquiao does not make predictions regarding his fights, unlike Oscar Larios who vowed to knock him out by the second round.

And Pacquiao never claimed himself to be a hero. It is his countrymen, in fervent admiration of him, who liken him to a hero. During his fights, he unites Filipinos from all walks of life.

If Pacquiao has not contributed anything to improve our country's economy—how about Yatco?

—SHIRLEY
B. BAGAYAS,
tarly_292002@eudoramail.com

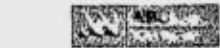
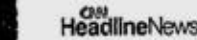
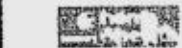
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Buffer zones separate rebs, militias

COTABATO CITY—A COMMITTEE MONITORING a truce between the government and separatist guerrillas in Mindanao started establishing what it said were demilitarized buffer zones to separate warring rebels and local militia units in three towns in Maguindanao province.

The clashes have ceased in the towns of Shariff Aguak, Mama-sapano and Datu Unsay, giving government and non-government relief organizations the chance to reach out to families displaced by the fighting.

The towns became battlegrounds for the rebels and militiamen loyal to the province's governors and mayors.

The buffer zones were part of an agreement between the government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front's coordinating committees on the cessation of hostilities.

The two panels met with officials of an International Monitoring Team Sunday. The team was composed of Indonesians and Malaysian truce observers.

The joint ceasefire committees and the Malaysian-led IMT, headed by Malaysian Gen. Pahlawan So-

heimi, had succeeded in separating the rebels and militiamen in Shariff Aguak, Datu Unsay and Mama-sapano by establishing a border.

This was one of the measures instituted by the ceasefire committees and the IMT to stop the clashes that had displaced about 30,000 individuals in Maguindanao.

Military officials gave assurances that the militiamen will abide by local peace arrangements on condition that the rebels would not provoke new clashes.

Gen. Ramon Santos, chair of the government's ceasefire committee, said the buffer zones will provide the villages caught in the crossfire from June 28 to July 6 a protective circumference of demilitarized areas to be monitored extensively by representatives from the military and the MILF.

To ensure the local arrangement would be religiously followed by both sides, non-government organizations involved in monitoring the ceasefire agreement between the government and MILF were also allowed to observe the buffer zones.

The clashes in Maguindanao were triggered by the June 23 bomb attack against Maguindanao Gov. Andal Ampatuan that left seven people dead.

Government militias were pursuing two MILF field commanders believed to have masterminded the bomb attack, the fifth against Governor Ampatuan.

With the mechanism in place, Santos said the ceasefire committees and IMT's next step is to convince the displaced families to

return to their homes.

Ruby Sahali-Tan, secretary of the Department of Social Welfare and

Development in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, said most of the refugees still refuse to

return to their homes for fear that clashes would again erupt. **Edwin Fernandez, PDI Mindanao Bureau**

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ROUNDUP

2 Indian nationals rescued

CAMP OLIVAS, Pampanga—Police on Friday rescued two kidnapped Indian businessmen and arrested five suspects in Mabalacat town. Chief Supt. Ismael Rafanan, Central Luzon police chief, said brothers Francis and Sanjo Singh, aged 23 and 25, were rescued as the suspects transferred them to another safehouse. Rafanan said operatives, led by regional police intelligence chief Senior Supt. Oscar Albayalde and Angeles City police chief Senior Supt. Policarpo Segubre, stopped the Hyundai van in which the suspects and the victims rode as it cruised along Barangay Camachile in Mabalacat at around 2:30 p.m. The suspects, identified as Armando Mondero, Alberto Loquihario, Romulo Javier, Eddie Lamego and Edgardo Garbo, did not put up a fight. They demanded P300,000 for the release of the Singhs, who were kidnapped at 8 p.m. on Thursday in their house in Angeles City. **Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk**

Drug addict kills mom

CITY OF MALOLOS—A 78-year-old woman was hacked to death allegedly by her own son after she refused to give him money for cigarettes in Barangay Longos here on Sunday, police said. Luisita Santiago was hacked in the head with a *palay* cutter, locally known as "karit" or "lilik," by Eliseo Santiago, 40, reportedly a drug dependent, police said. The suspect did not resist arrest when cornered in their house. He is now detained at the city jail and is facing parricide charges. **Carmela Reyes, PDI Central Luzon Desk**

2 murder suspects held

ROXAS CITY—Police on Monday arrested two suspects in the killing in Iloilo of two elderly spouses in Barangay Li-Ong, Roxas City. The two were identified as Joebert Aran, 29, of Sara town in Iloilo and German Lasquite, 22, of Maayon town in Capiz. A team composed of Sara and Roxas police units arrested the two who were sleeping in the house of one Elcy Oquendo. They were brought to the Sara police station to face charges for allegedly killing Ramon Ducanes, 75, and his wife Marlyn, 73, inside their homes in Sitio Nangka, Sara on July 6. The couple suffered several hack and bullet wounds. Revenge was the possible motive in the killing, police said. Aran admitted that he and Lasquite were around when the couple were slain but denied any participation in the crime. He said their two other companions were the ones who planned and killed the spouses. **Felipe Celino, PDI Visayas Bureau**

Crocodile bites boy



COTABATO CITY—A 12-year-old boy was rushed to a hospital here when a seven-foot long domesticated crocodile bit his right arm while he was playing with it inside a residential compound in Kimpo Subdivision, Barangay Rosary Heights 13 on Saturday. Ramon Palmares, a Grade 3 pupil of Kimpo Elementary School, was alone when he made fun of the crocodile by throwing stones at it at the Arguilles

premises, located near the school, Rosary Heights Barangay Chair Basilio Rosal said. In his second attempt, the crocodile snatched the boy's arm, prompting him to instinctively pull it back and cry for help, Rosal said, quoting the victim himself. "We were not aware that a crocodile exists in that house. It poses a danger to curious schoolchildren," Rosal said. Romeo Manzan, Protected Area and Wildlife Bureau director in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, said the crocodile owner is liable for the attack and has violated the law on wildlife protection. Under RA 9417, citizens are prohibited from catching, caring for and domesticating endangered animals. Neighbors said the owner was not around when the boy was attacked. **Charlie Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau**

ARMM workers' demand

COTABATO CITY—While militant groups have been pressing for a P125-across the board increase, private workers in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) are only asking for a P10-P20 daily wage increase and some non-wage benefits, according to Lillian Ruth Cabanban, secretary of the Regional Tripartite Wages and Productivity Board. Private sector employees in the ARMM receive a minimum wage of P190 per day. "There was no opposition from the employers' side," Cabanban said. She said the board could come out with the decision anytime. Florante Sapalaran, management representative of the Chiquita Uni-Fruti Philippines in Maguindanao, said the management sector was suggesting an increase in other non-wage benefits such as insurance and hospitalization in addition to the wage increase being sought by the employees. **Edwin Fernandez, PDI Mindanao Bureau**

Girl recovered from nannies



COTABATO CITY—Police on Monday evening rescued a five-year-old girl from her two nannies, who abducted her from their home in Isulan, Sultan Kudarat. The two suspects were also arrested, according to Supt. Saiben Akmad, city police chief investigator. Akmad said Mercy Cabasag, a resident of Kalamansig, Sultan Kudarat, and Lilibeth Sangreta of Ramon Magsaysay, Zamboanga del Sur, told police they only wanted to get back at the girl's grandmother, who had badmouthed them. **Charlie Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau**

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Across the NATION

A16

Nursing test scandal sparks Baguio street protests

By Vincent Cabreza
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BAGUIO CITY—NURSING STUDENTS and their parents braved heavy rains on Tuesday to march against a perceived cover-up of alleged cheating during last month's licensing examinations for nurses here.

About 60 marchers stopped downtown traffic, carrying banners that pose the question: "Are we producing incompetent nurses nowadays?"

Among the marchers were representatives of the 91 nursing school graduates, who asked the Professional Regulation Commission to suspend members of the

Board of Nursing until the PRC could determine who leaked the answers to the June 11 and 12 licensing examinations here to a nursing review center.

Mary Grace Lacanaria, chapter president of the Association of Deans of Nursing Schools in the Philippines, said the rally coincided with a PRC notice that a fact-

finding team had started looking into their complaints.

But the complainants refused to testify before this body, until the PRC referred the matter to an independent fact-finding group, their lawyer, Cheryl Daytec-Yangot, said.

Yangot said they wanted the PRC to hold a transparent investigation.

Pressure from top officials of the Philippine Nurses Association to suppress the complaints and contain the scandal compelled the nursing students to go to the streets to draw public support, said Lacanaria, the dean of the Saint Louis University's nursing school.

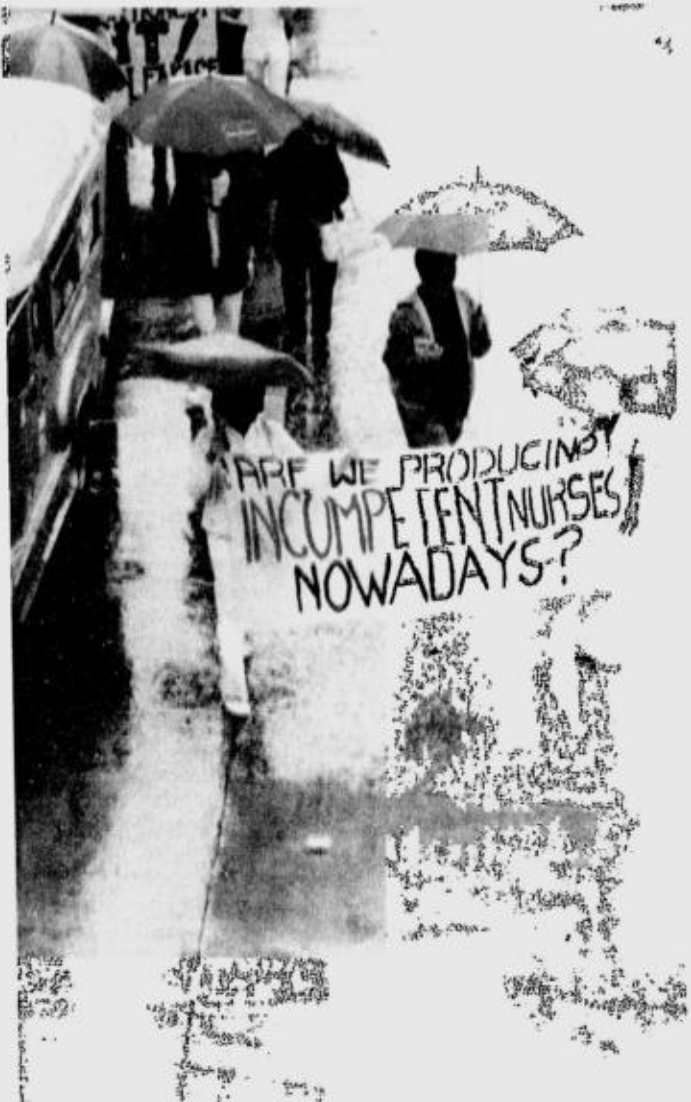
The PNA wants to avoid jeopardizing negotiations with the American National Council of State Boards of Nursing for a Philippine testing center that will offer migrating nurse, the United States National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX), she said.

Overseas work for nurses is widest in the United States, but the NCLEX requires additional expenses for migrating nurses.

"But the NCLEX can come later. We must focus on our own [industry]," Lacanaria said.

She said the alleged cheating revealed that the Philippines has been exporting incompetent and unreliable professionals.

Cleaning up the licensing examination



VINCENT CABREZA/PDI NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU

NURSING graduates and their parents march in Baguio City to protest the alleged leak of board examination questions.

tion today will keep the nursing industry's reputation of reliability and efficiency intact, Lacanaria said.

Parents who joined the march are organizing themselves into support groups to help restore their children's faith in the indus-

try, said Elisa Peralta, mother of one of the complainants.

She said her son graduated with honors and had devoted most of his energies to reviewing for the board exams only to have his faith shattered by the reported cheating.

Fires destroy 2,800 has of Benguet forest areas

LA TRINIDAD, BENGUET—THE DEPARTMENT of Environment and Natural Resources' bid to protect forest covers in the province looked bad for the first half of the year as four major fires hit more than 2,800 hectares of forests and burned trees worth P34 million.

DENR officials said they were thankful for the onset of the rainy season as the weather had discouraged trekkers and campers whom they largely blamed for accidentally starting

the forest fires.

"The forest fires were traced to picnickers and hikers who burned the debris piled from farming and agricultural activities in the mountains," Manuel Pogeyed, provincial environment and natural resources officer, told reporters in a recent forum.

He said the four forest fires struck from January to summer this year in Kabayan, Tuba and Itogon towns, damaging fully grown trees, saplings, seedlings and forest shrubs.

Pogeyed said the DENR had been unrelenting in its efforts to protect the province's forest cover, but limited personnel and the vast forested areas continued to hamper their hard work.

At present, he said, only 32 forest ranger cover an average area of 10,000 hectares of forest land each in the province.

Pogeyed said preventing forest fires and addressing the lack of manpower were some of the reasons that pushed the DENR to tap indigenous communities as local partners in forest protection and management.

The initial targets for the establishment of partnership schemes with indigenous communities, he said, were communal forests, watersheds and protected parks that host farms tilled by indigenous communities.

Pogeyed said the DENR was conducting relocation surveys to determine the exact boundaries of communal forests in La Trinidad, Bokod, Itogon, Tuba and Sablan towns.

"We hope to place boundary markers for all forests in the remaining eight towns of Benguet by the end of next year," he said.

He said the focus of the co-management program, which would involve the local governments, would be the strict enforcement of forestry laws in prohibited and protected areas and the identification of forest portions where the communities would be allowed to cut trees and get their other forest needs.

To help forest rangers, the Department of Agriculture must provide horses to make them more mobile, said La Trinidad Councilor William Esteban.

"With horses around, forest rangers could regularly conduct forest patrols even into the deepest [parts] of the jungle," he said.

Pogeyed said farmers in the forests should not pile their debris during summer as these had proven to be attractive for burning for climbers.

Delmar Cariño, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

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INQUIRER Northern Luzon

Editor Jun Bandayrel
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Life flows from Salinas salt springs

By Melvin Gascon
Bambang, Nueva Vizcaya

WHEN WATER STOPPED FLOWING from the mounds of the Salinas salt springs in 1990, residents of the farming village of Salinas in Bambang, Nueva Vizcaya, struggled to cope with the reality that the natural wonder, once their community's pride and the province's revered symbol, might have finally met its demise.

Through the years, they gradually accepted the loss after geologists confirmed that the springs had deteriorated because of tectonic movements of the Earth's crust, triggered by the 7.8-magnitude earthquake that hit Northern Luzon on July 16, 1990.

Little did they expect that more than a decade after its "death," the salt springs will flow again to nourish the mounds and sustain life for them.

A 2000 geologic study commissioned by then Gov. Rodolfo Agbayani showed that the 1990 earthquake diverted underground water that used to flow into the springs. Since then, the whitish mounds jutting out of the forested mountainside in Sitio Banging have gradually fallen into virtual oblivion.

The mounds were formed through millions of years by the continuous flow of a natural spring containing sulfate and carbonate salts, through a process similar to that of stalactites and stalagmites, according to geologists.

When the flow stopped, the mounds dried up, turned gray and lost the gleam that had endeared locals so much that their forefathers named the village "Salinas" (salt mines).

So instead of looking at ecotourism as a means for their place to gain progress and prominence, the villagers, composed mainly of Ilocano and Kalanguya settlers, had to go back to rice and vegetable farming, and agro-forestry for their livelihood.

But in 2004, the villagers discovered that water still flowed from the Salinas salt springs.

New life

The slightly inclined tract of land below the mounds is now host to about 30 fishponds, laid out almost like the rice terraces of Ifugao. It allows naturally flowing water from the base of the mounds to cascade from one pond to the next.

The fishponds have since provided an alternative means of livelihood for people in the surrounding villages.

Farmers in the sub-villages of Banging and Gracia used to plant only vegetables and rice. At first, they even considered the salty water from the springs a nuisance, as they believed it was stunting the growth of their crops.

In 2004, Glenn Mabunga, then Sangguniang Kabataan chair of Salinas, thought of impounding the free flowing salty water and converting this into fishponds. Mabunga, 22, saw aquaculture as a profitable venture to raise funds for their youth organization.

"People in the community were taunting me about the project because they thought freshwater fish like tilapia could not live in salty water," he said.

Nevertheless, Mabunga and a number of teenagers went on to dig two rectangular pools to a depth of about five feet, filled them with the water and dispersed tilapia fingerlings into the ponds.

When the SK members had their first harvest three months later, Mabunga had proven the skeptics wrong.

Esteban Pudiquet, 51, fisheries coordinator of the Bambang agriculture office, shared Mabunga's view. He bought a parcel of idle land in the area and converted this into fishponds.

"It was natural for us to hear negative comments about what we were doing. But when they saw how productive tilapia culture has become, others followed suit," Pudiquet said.

About 20 farmers now own and maintain fishponds below the mound and organized themselves into the Salinas Salt Springs Fishermen's Association. Membership continues to grow, according to Pudiquet.

The fishponds come in various sizes—the small



THE SALINAS salt springs, though forsaken, still never fails to give life to its people. MELVIN GASCON

ones are about half the size of a volleyball court while others are as big as a basketball court.

A species that was found capable of adapting to the salty water is the Nile tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus*), which is said to grow as big as an adult's palm. Farmers buy tilapia fingerlings from the Central Luzon State University in the Science City of Muñoz in Nueva Ecija.

Best tasting

Bambang Councilor Rachel Magday-Itchon said tilapia harvested from Salinas were the best-tasting available in the market, primarily because these did not have the earthen taste (*lasang putik*) that is common among tilapia grown in other areas.

"Consumers are now starting to look for that 'tilapia from Salinas' because it is said to be clean, and with the meat that is slightly salty," she said.

Pudiquet said the salt content of the water somehow hardened the soil on the pool's bed and this reduced murkiness of the pond and kept the water clean.

Farmers have begun introducing *ulang* or fresh-

water giant shrimp (*Macrobrachium rosenbergii*) and African hito or catfish (*Clarias fariensis*).

"Our next program is to have *bangus* (milkfish). The semi-brackish water of Salinas has a salinity level of 11.7, which passes the threshold for *bangus* growing," Pudiquet said.

The construction of fishponds is a welcome development, too, for tillers of rice lands below, as water impounded in the dams assures them of year-round irrigation supply, especially during the summer months when water from the mountains becomes scarce.

"We have forged an agreement that whenever they (farmers) need to augment their irrigation needs, we will release water from our ponds," Pudiquet said.

Paciano Delizo, 65, Salinas village chair, attests to the fact that *tilapia* aquaculture has greatly improved the lives of villagers.

"This is why we in the barangay council have set up plans on how we can sustain these projects. One important aspect of our efforts is the protection of the watershed forest, in order to keep the springs from flowing," he said.

The gift of another chance in Baguio

By Elizabeth Lolarga
Contributor

Painter ROMEO ROSETE did not discover art until he saw his sister Gloria, a medical student at the Far Eastern University (FEU), drawing human anatomy. He copied what she did and got so good at it that he became the artist of the Tarlac High School's campus paper, *The Melting Pot*. With pen and ink, he illustrated short stories and editorials.

The valedictorian of the San Nicolas Elementary School, Rosete was a so-so student in high school. He found joy in drinking alcohol and engaging in quarrels.

His father warned him that unless he changed, Rosete would not be sent to college in the big city. Vowing to mend his ways, he enrolled in pre-medicine at FEU.

Before he reached his fourth year, the course was dissolved. He signed up for chemistry. He fell in with gangmates who skipped classes and drank alcohol. Rosete did not attend his ROTC (Reserved Officers' Training Course) classes so the next school year he could not enroll.

He told his father that he would shift to fine arts but did not tell him about not being allowed to enroll. Gloria came to his rescue, paying a semester's worth of fine arts schooling.

He felt cramped in the advertising program. He wanted to paint. Teacher Danilo Dalena told him to follow his heart: "All the schools are the same. It's up to you to run your life. If you do not hone your craft, nothing will happen."

Rosete moved to the Philippine Women's University. He found the art materials expensive. He joined and won art competitions, bringing home from P1,500 to P3,000. The money went to art materials and drinks at the old Kola House in Ermita, Manila.

Men of Women's

He excelled in portraiture, landscape and abstracts. He joined his first group show with Rafael Cusi, Danny Sibayan and Ramon Doplon at the Wall Gallery in Manila. The exhibit title was "We Men of Women's."

Rosete showed watercolors of a squatters' colony in Pasay City and called his series "Siyanti," a play on the word shanty.

He dropped out of the PWU but continued painting till he was asked to join the Center for Young Artists. With him were Antipas Delotavo, Edgar Talusan Fernandez, Cusi, Doplon, Sibayan, Renato Habulan, Heber Bartolome and Jess Abrera.

Rosete met PWU nutrition major Maria Magdalena Español and fell in love with her. They had no plans of getting wed because he thought an artist should not have a baggage.

He says, "But fools rush in." Rosete was 26 and Español, 20. They hid from her parents' wrath by living in with Rosete's relatives in Tarlac, Pangasinan, Nueva Ecija and Isabela.

They finally got married at the Aglipayan Church in Isabela with his mother's old coins serving as arras and her antique rings as wedding rings. Español wore a loose housedress. Rosete was in slippers.

Christmas cards

The couple returned to Tarlac. Rosete bought and raised chickens, selling them to pay for his wife's delivery. In 1979, Romeo Jr. or Bumble was born. In 1981, Romeo Jose III or RJ followed.

To raise money for the baby's milk, Rosete made and sold Christmas cards for P20 each. Cusi visited them and left watercolors and paper for Rosete. That made him paint again. His colors were dark so galleries rejected his works.

Rosete then painted flowers. He left Tarlac for Manila with one-way transportation fare, lugging his paintings. If he was able to sell, he had money to return home. If there were no sales, he called up friend Linc Drilon, who told him, "Hop into a taxi and come to my house. I'll take care of you."

Rosete sold paintings to Mario Alcantara of the Heritage Art Center. Alcantara invited him to bring more works so Rosete had a steady income. Another baby was born—Rosete Marjaleena or Sunshine. Despite the optimistic nickname, the period was one of hardship.

Painting with baby

Rosete painted with one hand while cradling the baby with another. His wife was doing the laundry. He balanced the baby on his knees and painted. If the baby woke up, the father put his brush down and played with her. If the baby cried, he stopped painting. Once the child fell asleep, he took up the brush again.

In 1988, Christine Faye was born. Gloria built a house in Baguio City. Her youngest sister Luz stayed there. Beside it was another house rented out to Rosete's family. He took a liking to the mountain city and left Tarlac to raise his family up north.

Gloria built a bigger house, and Rosete's family occupied the smaller house. The house was damaged when the 1990 earthquake struck. His family camped out on the street.

Because classes were suspended, he kept his children busy with paper, pencils and pens. Before long his kids won national art contests.

He did not want his children to become artists "because an artist's life is hard." Still, RJ enrolled in fine arts at the University of the Philippines Baguio and won a prize in the Petron art contest but dropped out.

Sunshine finished medical technology at the Saint Louis University, placed ninth in the board exams in 2005, and teaches at the Uni-

versity of Baguio.

Bumble works at a call center. He paints on the side. Faye majors in accountancy at the SLU. Romeo Christo is a senior at the Baguio City National High School.

Rosete dreams of mounting a family show. But his children use his materials so their colors come out alike. "That's not good. The children should have their own palettes," he says.

THE AUTHOR, a University of the Philippines journalism graduate, lives in Baguio City.



ROSETE and one of his works

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GMA foes admit bishops' impeach stand a big blow

By Michael Lim Ubac

OPPOSITION LAWMAKERS YESTERDAY conceded the refusal of the bishops to support their impeachment campaign was a blow to their efforts but said this did not mean that President Macapagal-Arroyo was off the hook.

The President's loyal supporters in Congress welcomed the CBCP statement, saying it knocked the moral basis out of the opposition bid to oust Ms Arroyo.

"It cannot be denied that their decision not to support us is a loss for now but this will not delay or lessen the determination of those pushing for impeachment," House Minority Leader Francis

Escudero said in Filipino.

Bukidnon Rep. Teofisto Guingona III said the CBCP's refusal to support the impeachment process "does not spell absolution for GMA (President Arroyo)."

"There is no escape for her. The truth will come out by all means. And she will be held accountable to the people," said Guingona, whose father, former Vice President Teofisto Guingona Jr., was among those who filed an impeachment complaint against Ms Arroyo.

Only peaceful process

Parañaque Rep. Roilo Golez said the motive of impeachment proponents "cannot be ascribed to power."

He said those seeking Ms Arroyo's removal saw the impeachment process as necessary in the quest for the truth.

"The courts are not the correct venue for truth-seeking because an incumbent President cannot be taken to court."

Deputy House Minority Leader Alan Peter Cayetano said the CBCP's stand to continue the search for the truth but not through the current impeachment effort was "understandable" as people were frustrated with the political process.

"But what is the alternative? We welcome any process which will bring out the truth but lacking that process, impeachment is

the only constitutional, legal and peaceful process," said Cayetano.

The party-list group Bayan Muna said the "CBCP turned its back on the people" because its pastoral statement was "a virtual exonerated and endorsement of this sham presidency."

'Real prophets'

Anakpawis party-list Rep. Rafael Mariano said: "People power remains not only an alternative but a legitimate and politically correct way in achieving truth and justice. With this, the real prophets will rise from the ranks of the ordinary people."

Speaker Jose de Venecia said the CBCP statement calling the new

impeachment process an "unproductive exercise" put the House majority on a "high moral ground" to kill the impeachment drive.

"The CBCP statement has removed the moral basis for the new impeachment complaints against the President," said De Venecia.

House Deputy Majority Leader Antonio Cerilles of Zamboanga del Sur said the CBCP's position was a "validation of the nil chances for the impeachment's success, with the opposition itself doubting it can garner the numbers to push the multiple complaints."

Truth already known

Rep. Rodito Albano III of Isabela said it was a "mortal politi-

cal sin to impute negative motives" to the CBCP's decision not to support the impeachment cases against the President.

He said the CBCP's collective position was clearly explained and worthy of respect as a product of enlightenment and discernment.

Malacañang said the truth the opposition was seeking was already known.

"We think the truth has in fact been established that the President had won fair and square and [her victory] was reflective of the will of the people," said Presidential Adviser on Political Affairs Gabriel Claudio. "We need not look for alternatives." With a report from Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

CBCP statement: From 'we reject' to 'not inclined'

From page A1

lar with the deliberations.

He said the bishops were wary that people supporting or opposing the impeachment might once again use the CBCP position for their respective political interests.

The apprehension explained why the 89 active bishops in attendance agreed to prune down the item on impeachment to just two paragraphs. The source said the item originally contained about three more paragraphs, which, many bishops felt, might only sow confusion.

The general sentiment, the source said, was that bishops were "not against" the impeachment process as a way of knowing whether Ms Arroyo manipulated the 2004 balloting.

"Our concern was mainly on the fact that the same people with the same interests would be running the impeachment process so it's not difficult to anticipate the outcome," he told the INQUIRER yesterday on condition of anonymity.

"We were just looking for the right words, for the proper styling of sentences so as not to make it appear that we are against impeachment because

we are not."

In the end, he said the body agreed to the statement that "we are not inclined at the present moment to favor the impeachment process as a means of establishing the truth."

From 'reject' to 'not inclined'

Sought for comment, Bishop Deogracias Iñiguez yesterday said the sentence originally contained the word "we reject" instead of the phrase, "we are not inclined."

Iñiguez, who last month joined an opposition impeachment case against Ms Arroyo, said he opposed the original wording because it contradicted the preceding statement, saying that the CBCP was "undoubtedly for the search of truth."

Like Iñiguez, the CBCP source invited the faithful to objectively look at the entire, eight-page pastoral statement, particularly the two paragraphs devoted to the impeachment controversy.

The paragraphs noted that the CBCP was merely cool to the idea "at the present moment" primarily because of fear that the exercise would also be "futile," if not, "railroaded" like the previous one last year which Ms Ar-



3 BISHOPS AND A PASTORAL LETTER. Contrary to the CBCP's "vague" position on the impeachment of Ms Arroyo, proimpeachment Bishop Deogracias Iñiguez (center) flanked by like-minded Bishops Julio Labayen and Antonio Tobias meet with other supportive groups from different religious congregations at St. Peter's Church on Commonwealth Avenue, Quezon City on Tuesday. (Story on Page A1) JOAN BONDOC

royo's dominant allies in Congress killed.

'Unproductive exercise'

"The opposition didn't even reach first base then. The case died at the committee level," the source recalled.

Monday's statement said: "Unless the process and its rules

as well as the mindsets of all participating parties, pro and con, are guided by no other motive than genuine concern for the common good, impeachment will once again serve as an unproductive political exercise, dismaying every citizen, and deepening the citizen's negative perception of politicians, Left,

Right and Center."

In all, the source said the CBCP deliberated on the impeachment—and essentially the entire eight-page document—for only two hours, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. last Sunday.

Save for the item on impeachment, the draft presented to the body on Saturday en-

countered very minimal changes, he said.

The deliberation was relatively quick, especially compared with the July 2005 pastoral statement which went through at least three drafts.

The source said the speed was understandable since the rest of the social issues tackled were merely a reiteration of previous CBCP positions contained in the three previous pastoral statements.

1st pages theological

Curiously, the first five pages of the new statement were deeply theological, assiduously explaining where the bishops were coming from in coming out with their position on social issues.

In a way, it seemed they were taking pains to explain why they were talking.

The document was drafted by a committee composed of Bishop Francisco Claver, prelate emeritus of Bontoc-Lagawe, Archbishops Orlando Quevedo and Leonardo Legazpi, Bishops Chito Tagle and Pablo David.

Save for Claver and David, the rest were also involved in drafting the July 2005 pastoral statement.

Malacañang distributed cash to bishops; some bishops 'revolted'

From page A1

been offered livelihood projects for his impoverished diocese.

Bishops used to donations

Asked to comment, CBCP spokesperson Msgr. Pedro Quitorio said: "We can neither confirm nor deny the cash offers. But in case they actually happened, the timing and propriety are questionable. Bishops are used to donations for their social programs. But some might be naive about the political underpinnings."

The CBCP plenary assembly, which took place on Saturday and Sunday, had been much anticipated because the bishops were expected to deliberate and subsequently issue a pastoral statement on current political issues, including the fresh impeachment drive against President Macapagal-Arroyo.

The statement issued on Monday said the CBCP would not endorse the present impeachment process but would continue to respect the position of individuals

and groups involved in it, and would not abandon the search for the truth behind the allegations against Ms Arroyo.

'Only what I earn'

The bishop, who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitive nature of the subject, said he made it clear to the Malacañang messenger that he was "used to accepting only envelopes that I earn."

He said he later learned from fellow bishops that they had accepted the envelopes each containing between P20,000 and P30,000 in cash on the assumption that these were bearing mere letters or project proposals from the Palace.

"The envelopes were slipped into their pockets," he said. "When they returned to their rooms and opened the envelopes, they were surprised [to find money]. They said they would return the envelopes right away."

Another member of the CBCP told the INQUIRER on Monday about the envelopes that had purportedly been delivered to the bishops.

One bishop posted at a diocese in Luzon yesterday said that some of his peers also received envelopes following a meeting arranged by a Palace official.

He said the envelopes contained plane tickets and a reimbursement of their expenses for traveling to Manila.

Monday to Sunday

Bishops began noticing the representatives reportedly of the Palace at the Pope Pius XII Catholic Center on UN Avenue, Manila, as early as Monday last week, the eve of the CBCP retreat that preceded the plenary assembly, according to the account of the bishop who had immediately rejected the envelope offered to him.

From Monday until Sunday, the bishops saw the same "casual-looking" people lingering at the center and approaching prelates with envelopes at break time, particularly around noon and a little past 6 p.m.

The supposed messengers of the Palace said they had come to offer "livelihood" money for the

bishops' respective parishioners.

But the offers were an affront to the bishops' intelligence and sensibility, the source said.

"Do they honestly believe that we would buy that?" he said, adding that he and his colleagues were merely being "polite and civil" to Malacañang's supposed emissaries.

Too small for projects

The bishop who rejected the envelope outright said that if the Arroyo administration were sincere in giving donations and providing livelihood projects, it should deal directly with the concerned parishioners or groups.

Besides, he said, the amount of P20,000 to P30,000 was too small to start livelihood projects for thousands of indigent parishioners.

"It seemed to me that [the money] was more for the bishops," he said.

The bishop also pointed out that it was the administration's "job to provide livelihood to the people."

"But how come it's being generous only at a time when bishops are meeting about issues concerning the administration?" he said.

It seemed to him, he said, that Malacañang was trying to "bribe" members of the CBCP into "softening our position."

"Perhaps [Malacañang officials] think that once you receive gifts from a benefactor, you'd be very soft already in your assessment," he said. "But we were never influenced in our pastoral statement."

'That's ridiculous'

Michael Defensor, the President's chief of staff, merely laughed off the report that Malacañang had sent emissaries to personally hand cash to the bishops.

"That's ridiculous. I don't think that even deserves a comment," he said.

In a radio interview, Defensor said Malacañang had decided to give its donations directly to the bishops or to each diocese's Social Action Council, as suggested by governors, may-

ors and nongovernment organizations.

"They made the suggestion to prevent jealousies and in-fighting among local government officials and NGOs on the delivery of the government's donations," Defensor said.

In the same radio program, Archbishop Oscar Cruz said he preferred that the government course its donations—which he termed as "the money of the people"—through civic organizations to ensure that "the bishops' hands are clean."

Medicines, rice, etc.

On Saturday, Parañaque Bishop Jesse Mercado called his peers' attention to the supposed gifts being dangled to them by the Arroyo administration.

He said the offers usually came in the form of cheap medicines and stocks of rice, noodles and similar commodities.

The CBCP source said he himself had received such a standing offer but continued to ignore it.

With a report from Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

Bishops pushing people to stage people power—Salonga

From page A1

legal serious Ms Arroyo to answer allegations of electoral fraud, corruption and human rights violations against her.

"The President, through the impeachment, can defend herself from the charges hurled against her. It may not be a fool-proof process because it's an imperfect human institution," Salonga said.

Threat of lawsuits

"But for all its imperfections, it's the only legal method under the law where the President can ventilate her side. If you close this avenue because of the official stand of the influential CBCP, there may be no other way open to the people than resort to people power," he said.

Salonga said Ms Arroyo was not inclined to resign to face the

allegations against her squarely in a court of law.

"I can understand why President Arroyo refuses to resign. She will lose her presidential immunity and will be swamped with criminal suits," he said.

Referendum on GMA

"People Power is a last resort for many who are confronted by an exceedingly difficult situation," he added.

Monsod said One Voice respected the impeachment process but that repeated impeachment battles might be too much for Filipinos.

"The country cannot afford to have impeachment proceedings every 12 months without attention being diverted from addressing urgent social concerns and electoral reforms," Monsod said. "That is why One Voice is sug-



SALONGA: CBCP statement leaves people with no choice.



MONSOD: 2007 elections would be a referendum on GMA.

gesting, that the 2007 elections, if credible, be considered an indirect referendum on the political impasse, with our leaders accepting the vote of the people on congressmen and senators as their

verdict, and its consequences, so we can move on," he added.

One Voice believes a poll victory by Ms Arroyo's allies in Congress and in the local government would mean she enjoys the

confidence of the electorate.

A defeat of her minions would mean lack of confidence in her administration.

A House of Representatives controlled by the opposition after the 2007 polls is expected to transmit the impeachment complaint against Ms Arroyo to the Senate for a trial.

Other avenues

An impeachment complainant, Bishop Deogracias Iñiguez of Caloocan and fellow Bishop Antonio Tobias of Novaliches suggested there might be other avenues for the people.

"If this constitutional means should fail, the desire to know the truth continues. [The people] will look for other avenues. We have to be ready for risks," Iñiguez said in a forum at the St. Peter's Church in Quezon City.

"We should exhaust all effort within legal means or we'll be forced by our conscience to look for other means," Iñiguez said.

Tobias said the CBCP statement was far from being an indictment of the impeachment process per se.

"[Administration officials] might think that our statement is favoring them. They might find themselves wrong," Tobias said.

He said the CBCP statement did not mean the bishops were abandoning the people in the search for the truth.

"We will not leave them in the struggle," Tobias said.

Asked if he, Iñiguez and Bishop Emeritus Julio Xavier Labayen would push for extra-constitutional means to arrive at the truth if the impeachment process failed, Tobias said: "It would be the people who should move."

SO THE PUBLIC MAY KNOW

The Court of Appeals (CA) has just rejected the CB-BOL's plea to reconsider its earlier decision that the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) is bound by judgment as the sole successor-in-interest of the old Central Bank (CB) pursuant to RA 7653 and the transferee *pendente lite* because the CB had transferred its assets to BSP during the pendency of the civil cases. The CA had also earlier chided the CB-BOL for its deliberate delay in the restitution of Banco Filipino.

Republic of the Philippines
COURT OF APPEALS
Manila

FORMER SEVENTEENTH DIVISION

CENTRAL BANK BOARD
OF LIQUIDATORS,
Petitioner,

CA-G.R. SP NO. 86697

Members:
GUEVARA-SALONGA,
Chairman
LAMPAS PERALTA, and
VILLON, JJ.

THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
OF MAKATI CITY (BRANCH 136)
and BANCO FILIPINO SAVINGS
AND MORTGAGE BANK,
Respondents,

Promulgated:
JUNE 27, 2006

X

RESOLUTION

GUEVARA-SALONGA, J:

*For resolution by this Court are petitioner's Motion for Reconsideration¹ of our decision dated 27 January 2006, the respective Comments of private respondent² and individual respondents Heirs of Jose B. Fernandez, Carlota P. Valenzuela, Arnulfo B. Aurellano, and Ramon V. Tiaoqui³, and petitioner's Reply.⁴

We reviewed Our decision once again in light of the parties' arguments in the above motion, comments and reply. We find no plausible reason to depart from Our earlier disquisitions as the issues put forth have been exhaustively passed upon in Our decision.

With respect to petitioner's Motion to Set Case for Oral Argument,⁵ a similar motion it filed dated 16 December 2005 raising the same issues and arguments⁶ has already been denied by this Court in its Resolution dated 18 January 2006.⁷

Republic of the Philippines
COURT OF APPEALS
Manila

CENTRAL BANK BOARD OF LIQUIDATORS,
Petitioner,
THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT OF MAKATI CITY (BRANCH 136)
and BANCO FILIPINO SAVINGS AND MORTGAGE BANK,
Respondents.

CA - G.R. SP. NO. 86697

NOTICE OF RESOLUTION

June 27, 2006

Sir/Madam:
Please take notice that on June 27, 2006, a RESOLUTION, copy attached hereto, was rendered by the FORMER SEVENTEENTH DIVISION of the Court of Appeals in the above-entitled case, the original of which is on file with this office.

Respectfully yours,
ANTOLIN ALLYSON M. DABON JR.
Division Clerk of Court

By: ELIEZAR S. SORIANO
Acting Division Clerk of Court

Copy furnished:
Atty. Ma. Rosario Z. Del Rosario - reg. W/rc
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6th Floor, Padilla Building, Emerald Avenue,
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(for individual respondents)
SYCIP SALAZAR HERNANDEZ
& GATMAITAN
3rd Floor, 55HG Law Center
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The inclusion in the present motion of allegations as to private respondent's paid print advertisements in three newspapers could not have changed the issues raised again by petitioner. The said motion is therefore likewise denied.

Wherefore, the foregoing considered, the motion for reconsideration and motion to set case for oral argument are hereby Denied.

So Ordered.

Original Signed
JOSEFINA GUEVARA-SALONGA
Associate Justice

WE CONCUR:

Original Signed
FERNANDA LAMPAS PERALTA
Associate Justice

Original Signed
SESINANDO E. VILLON
Associate Justice

Original Signed
ANTOLIN ALLYSON M. DABON, JR.
Court of Appeals



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Editor Ester G. Dipasupil
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THE JEEPNEY where police found the body of Virgilio Gabriel, a former San Mateo policeman who was killed yesterday morning. His attackers shot him 14 times, apparently to make sure he would not survive.

RAFFY LERMA

Ex-policeman dead in San Mateo ambush

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

POLICE ARE INVESTIGATING THE killing of a 48-year-old former policeman who was shot to death by six men armed with 9 mm and .45-caliber handguns in San Mateo, Rizal yesterday morning.

PO3 Virgilio Gabriel was shot 14 times, mainly in the head and chest. He died immediately, San Mateo Police Chief Insp. Anastacio Benzon told the INQUIRER.

Benzon said Gabriel, a former desk officer at the municipal police station, had gone AWOL (absent without official leave) nearly 11 years ago.

Huge debts

"His wife said (Gabriel) had incurred huge debts after he stopped reporting for work years ago," Benzon added.

"We are already preparing a list of the people he failed to pay as well as those to whom he had issued bouncing checks," the police official said.

Benzon said Gabriel had been borrowing money from many people even during his stay at the San Mateo police

station. However, Benzon said they would also look at other possible motives.

According to Benzon, the former policeman was shot while he was driving his jeepney at around 8 a.m. on Delos Santos Street in Barangay Ampid.

The victim's wife said that it was his habit to go jogging at Greenland Subdivision in the morning.

Stopover

Yesterday, Gabriel decided to drop by the house of a friend inside the subdivision.

On his way home, six men, who had apparently been waiting for him on the road, opened fire at his jeep.

The attack was so sudden that Gabriel was not able to reach for a .38-caliber handgun stored inside his toolbox.

Though he was seriously injured, Gabriel tried to steer the vehicle away from his killers but they ran after him and shot him repeatedly.

The owner-type jeep crashed into the door of a commercial building.

The six armed men later got on a tricycle and fled, Benzon said.

Gas station owner loses P3M to robbers

With no security escort, victim was easy target

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

A GAS STATION OWNER LOST P3 million in cash and his van to robbers who held him up in Antipolo City yesterday morning.

Dennis Paras, 44, the owner of the Caltex gas station on Marcos Highway, Barangay Mayamot, told the police that he went to the establishment at around 6:20 a.m. to collect earnings from gas sales.

Paras said he had just parked his Starex van at the gas station and was getting out of the vehicle when three men armed with .45 caliber handguns approached him and declared a hold-up.

They dragged him out of the van, got into the vehicle and then fled. Inside the van was about P3 million in cash which Paras had just collected from nine other gas

stations that he owned.

Though he was carrying a big sum of money, Paras was alone. He had no security escort, not even a company driver, to assist him, Supt. Primitivo Tabujara, Antipolo City police chief, said.

The robbers apparently knew that Paras was carrying a big sum of money and that he would show up at the gas station at that time, the police added.

Tabujara said he had been advising business and bank owners in Antipolo City never to transport huge amounts of cash without security escorts.

Meanwhile, a security officer was killed when he accosted two armed men who were about to enter the Bank of San Mateo in Barangay San Roque. Antonio Felipe was shot dead by the suspects who escaped, said Tabujara.



THE CHEERS and Beers Bar in San Juan where six people were killed on Sunday night.

RYAN LIM

Cops follow shooting spree suspect's trail

THE SAN JUAN POLICE YESTERDAY vowed to go after the suspect who single-handedly shot dead six drivers on Sunday night.

Lawmen already have a picture of Henry Fong, 27, which they got from a police file in Marikina City, where Fong had been jailed for alleged robbery, San Juan police chief Supt. Rodolfo Jocson told the INQUIRER.

"We already have enough documentation on the suspect. We have follow-up teams ready to arrest him," Jocson said.

Fong allegedly barged inside the Cheers and Beers KTV Bar on Araneta Extension on Sunday night where a group of drivers was holding a meeting.

According to witnesses, Fong looked for the group's president Mario Pastorpili. The two had an argument in the past after Pastorpili reportedly accosted Fong for kicking him in front of the bar. The two, however, made up after Fong apologized.

On Sunday night, the two men got into another heated discussion and Fong ended up shooting Pastorpili twice, witnesses said.

Fong continued firing indiscriminately, shooting "everyone who moved inside the bar," PO1 Alexander Dedumo told the INQUIRER.

In the end, six drivers, including Pastorpili, were killed and two were injured. The suspect escaped on board a white Mazda pickup after the shooting spree.

Jocson said the two injured drivers were already "out of danger" as of yesterday and would soon give their statements to investigators. Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

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PNU prexy willing to reconcile with 'foes'

By Margaux C. Ortiz

AMID THE CONTROVERSY surrounding his appointment, the new president of the state-run Philippine Normal University (PNU) yesterday vowed to improve the institution's situation, given its decreasing budget and other financial problems.

Newly appointed PNU president Lutgardo Barbo said he would ensure the further development of students and professional improvement of the staff through his programs, in a press conference yesterday.

On the continuing protests over his appointment, Barbo said he was willing to reconcile with the school officials who had resigned from their administrative posts when the Board of Regents reaffirmed their decision on his

appointment last week.

"We will be second to none in terms of teacher training," Barbo said. "But to do that, we have to accomplish a lot in terms of physical improvements and educational innovations," he stressed.

Dr. Diony Varela, a member of the Board of Regents which selected Barbo from among several candidates for the post said they picked him for his capacity to raise funds for the university because of his connections at the House of Representatives and the Senate.

Friends in Congress

Barbo, whom Varela said was also chosen for his managerial and administrative experience in the management of scarce resources and resource generation as Eastern Samar governor for

three terms, said he has already talked to some congressmen about improving the university.

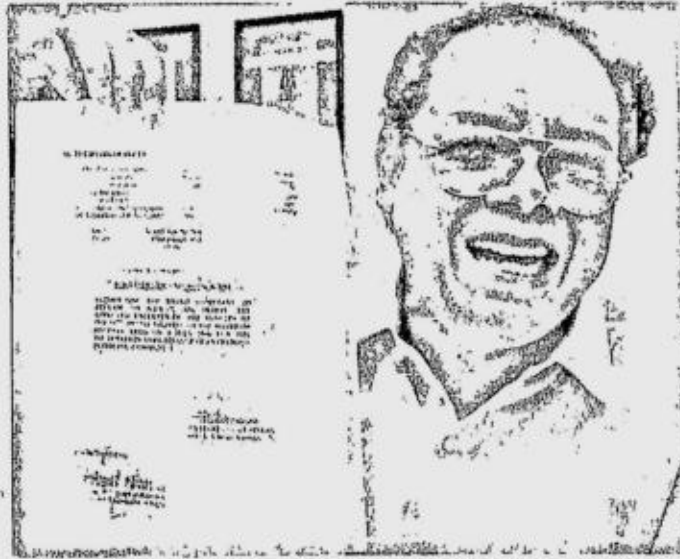
"They (congressmen) are clearly partial to education because many of them have mothers who graduated from PNU," the new PNU president said.

University officials, under Barbo's watch, will also move for the refile of a pending bill declaring PNU as a national university for teacher education.

No disruption

Barbo said that the protests have not hampered school operations in any way.

"I have extended a hand of reconciliation and even talked to many of the protesters. I did not become president to preside over quarrels and misunderstandings," he added.



BARBO shows reporters a copy of the Board of Regents' decision reaffirming his selection as Philippine Normal University president.

METROBRIEFS

Airport cop killed

AN AIRPORT policeman was shot dead by two unidentified men in Pasay City on Monday afternoon, police said. Corporal George Tumamao of the Manila International Airport police was riding his motorcycle along Roxas Boulevard, on his way to his money changer shop at Unit 16 Colcan Arcade, Airport Road, when two men shot him in the nape, said case investigator P02 Ricardo Tan. Policemen patrolling the area immediately responded when they heard the gunshot, boarding off the armed men who were on a motorcycle without a license plate. Police said the two were probably after the P146,000 in cash that Tumamao was carrying with him. Tan said that Tumamao was on his way to his shop to deposit the money when he was shot. The victim was rushed to the San Juan de Dios Hospital where he died two hours later.

Jocelyn R. Uy

French woman robbed

WHAT was supposed to be a fun-filled vacation turned into a nightmare for a French tourist who lost her belongings to a gang of robbers on Monday night. Valerie Hene, 25, told the Makati City police that she lost P4,500 in cash and the memory card of her digital camera to the "Ativan Gang." The gang uses Ativan, a drug, to make their victims unconscious before robbing them. Hene, who is staying at the Plaza Condominium in Salcedo Village, told the police that she was strolling around Intramuros, Manila on Monday afternoon when four women and a man befriended her and offered her to take her around Baywalk on Roxas Boulevard. They later invited her to a house where she was offered food and beer. Hene said she felt dizzy and fell asleep after drinking the beer. When she woke up, she found herself in a taxi.

Jocelyn R. Uy

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PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST
OPENS JULY 12

More incentives in store for Makati businessmen

By Tarra V. Quismundo

IN A BID TO STRENGTHEN ITS position as the country's financial capital, the Makati City Council is planning to draft an ordinance that would give incentives to businessmen.

"Our goal is to make Makati even more competitive with the other cities by both retaining and widening our investor base," Makati Mayor Jejomar Binay said in a statement yesterday.

According to City Hall, councilors have already begun discussions on the proposed Investment and Incentives Code.

The proposed ordinance gives busi-

ness firms tax breaks and exempts these from paying local fees like amusement tax. "The code will exempt firms from paying business and real property taxes for a period of three to four years. The city government is eyeing a 100 percent exemption for the first year of operation," said City Hall in a statement.

Listed as priority businesses are those engaged in information and communication technology, including digital animation and software firms, call centers, retirement centers, health facilities, graduate schools, heritage and cultural projects, commercial centers, hotels and other tourism-related or leisure establishments.

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DID YOU KNOW

DID YOU KNOW THAT the University of Manila was a brainchild of five persons aged 15 to 21? In 1913, siblings Apolinario, Mariano and Maria de los Santos, with friends Buenaventura Bello and Manuel Montilla, thought of building a school. They opened the Instituto de Manila a year later in a rented building in Binondo. The school, which was relocated to Sampaloc in 1919, later became known as the University of Manila.

PDI Research

INQUIRER TV GUIDE
Wednesday, July 12, 2006

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ClickTheCity.com

Channel	2:30PM	3:00PM	3:30PM	4:00PM	4:30PM	5:00PM	5:30PM	6:00PM	6:30PM	7:00PM	7:30PM	8:00PM	8:30PM	9:00PM	9:30PM	10:00PM	10:30PM	11:00PM	11:30PM
ABC 5	Kapamilya Cinema																		
ABS-CBN 2																			
AXN																			
Cartoon Network																			
Cinema One																			
Cinemax																			
CNN																			
CNN/Suspense																			
Discovery Channel																			
Disney Channel																			
ESPN																			
ETC																			
ETC 2nd Avenue																			
ETW																			
Fox News																			
GMA 7																			
Hallmark Channel																			
HBO																			
Hero TV																			
IBC 13																			
JackTV																			
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MTV Philippines																			
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UN Security Council defers vote on N. Korea

Awaits results of China's diplomatic efforts to defuse crisis over North Korea's missile tests

UNITED NATIONS—THE UN SECURITY Council on Monday put off a vote on a Japanese draft resolution that would slap sanctions on North Korea over its missile tests, to allow more time for Chinese diplomatic efforts to defuse the crisis.

"For time being we have decided not to press for a vote and to wait for a short while" while a high-level Chinese delegation is on a six-day visit to Pyongyang, Japanese Ambassador Kenzo Oshima told reporters.

In Washington, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice also said

the United States had agreed with a Japanese proposal to postpone the vote pending the results of the Chinese initiative to the communist state.

A top Chinese delegation led by Vice Premier Hui Liangyu arrived in North Korea on Monday amid hopes the visit would ease rising tensions over last week's tests of seven missiles.

Rice said that the Chinese mission showed "some promise" and that Washington wanted to give it time to play out.

China meanwhile circulated a nonbinding presidential state-

ment in the Security Council as an alternative to the draft resolution presented by Japan with the backing of all Western members of the 15-member council.

Chinese Ambassador Wang Guangya said he transmitted his text to all his council colleagues, saying it provided the "best framework and the best format" for a "unified" response from the Security Council to North Korea.

The Chinese presidential statement contains many of the key elements in the Japanese document, including a call on member states to block the transfer of

items to North Korea that could be used in missile and weapons of mass destruction programs.

But Britain's UN envoy Emyr Jones Parry said the Chinese document "just really didn't do the job" because "it did not respond sufficiently robustly to actually what the present threat is. Indeed it did not recognize that there was a threat."

Wang said the key difference in his text was that he dropped the description of the North Korean missile tests as a "threat to international peace and security" as well as the draft's invocation of Chapter Seven of the UN charter.

Chapter Seven, invoked in cases of threats to international peace and security, can authorize sanctions or even military action.

"Those who work in the United Nations understand clearly that such determination and the invocation of Chapter Seven ... will cause serious concern for China," Wang said.

He said such a determination by the council would be "political" and could be used in future by some "to take action which would make the situation even worse," in a veiled reference to the Iranian nuclear crisis.

"The Security Council has to

take responsible, constructive and prudent actions," Wang said.

"We believe it (the Chinese text) provides an excellent basis for a strong signal to Pyongyang," Russian envoy Vitaly Churkin told reporters. "We think what our Chinese colleagues have offered is the right mode of action."

Reacting to Wang's contention that the North Korean missile tests did not constitute a threat to international peace and security, Oshima wondered how Beijing would have reacted if those missiles had been directed at Chinese territory. **AFP**

Olmert defends Gaza raids; death toll hits 50

GAZA CITY—NINE PALESTINIANS WERE killed on Monday as Israel pounded Gaza with deadly air strikes and Prime Minister Ehud Olmert defended the massive military offensive in the face of international criticism.

Despite the mounting toll, Hamas' exiled political chief insisted the captured soldier at the heart of the worst Middle East crisis in months—and the deadliest in four years—would not be freed without a swap for Palestinian prisoners.

Israel has refused to negotiate with Hamas or free prisoners in exchange for the missing teenage corporal, pressing on regardless with its deadly offensive in which three football-playing adolescents were among the dead Monday.

"We haven't set a particular timetable for this operation. We will continue in places, in time, in measures that will suit our purposes," said Olmert, who is facing the biggest test of his premiership in the crisis.

"I think that once the Qassam (rocket) shooting will be stopped and the terrorist actions against innocent civilians will be halted altogether, there will be no need for any Israeli action in Gaza," he said.

At least 50 Palestinians and one Israeli soldier have been killed since Israel tanks and troops poured into the Gaza Strip on July 5 in a bid to stop Palestinian rocket attacks and secure Cpl. Gilad Shalit's release.

Four Palestinian teenagers, who local medical sources said were unarmed, died and another four people were wounded in the latest Israeli air strikes over the Gaza Strip after dark Monday.

Witnesses said the victims were playing

football close to an area where militants had fired makeshift rockets toward Israel a short time earlier. One rocket was reported to have landed on Israeli territory without causing damage or casualties.

An Israeli army spokesperson said the air raid had targeted a rocket-launching cell in northern Gaza in the Beit Hanun area.

Two militants from Hamas' armed wing and two from rival Islamic Jihad were killed in earlier strikes, and at least another 12 bystanders were hurt. An eighth Palestinian died of his injuries elsewhere in Gaza.

Israel has warned that troops are likely to be in for the long haul, rejecting a call by Palestinian Prime Minister Ismail Haniya for a mutual ceasefire but denying that the offensive aims to topple his Hamas government.

"This government is terror," Olmert said, but "we have no particular desire to topple the Hamas government as a policy."

Hamas, which has seen its government offices bombed in Israeli air strikes since Shalit's capture, for which the Hamas armed wing claimed joint responsibility, has warned the assault is complicating mediation efforts aimed at freeing the corporal.

But Olmert reiterated he would not negotiate with Hamas, which officially advocates the destruction of the Jewish state, or release prisoners in a swap for Shalit as his captors have demanded.

Moving into land evacuated in September after a 38-year occupation, ground forces have been backed by helicopter gunships and drones in wave after wave of air strikes for two straight weeks of overnight bombardment. **AFP**



HORSE FIGHTING

Horses fight during a horse fighting competition at a festival in Rongshui Miao Autonomous County in south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, July 10. Miao minorities celebrated the traditional festival of Xin He on Monday.

REUTERS

Kosovo war crimes trial opens at UN

THE HAGUE—THE MAMMOTH war crimes trial of six former top Serbian officials and close allies of late Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic, accused of atrocities committed by Serb troops during the 1998-99 crackdown on Kosovo, started at the UN court Monday.

"In 1999 Kosovo was prominent in international headlines and video images of conflict and convoys of thousands of Kosovo Albanian refugees. We are going to explain why," said prosecutor Thomas Hannis.

In the dock alongside ex-Serbian President Milan Milutinovic are the former Serbian Prime Minister Nikola Sainovic, two former Yugoslav army chiefs of staff—Generals Dragoljub Ojdanic and Nebojsa Pavkovic—and Generals Vladimir Lazarevic and Sreten Lukic.

"We say the evidence will show that these six accused were co-perpetrators with Slobodan Milosevic in a joint criminal enterprise... the aim of which was to ensure continued Serbian control over the province," he added.

Following Milosevic's death in March, the Milutinovic case has become pivotal for establishing what happened in Serbia's mainly ethnic-Albanian province of Kosovo from a legal point of view.

Much of the evidence to be presented is expected to be similar to the prosecution's Kosovo case in the Milosevic trial.

The former Yugoslav president died suddenly on March 11 and his trial, the first to deal with the alleged Serb atrocities committed during the Kosovo war, was closed without the judges ruling on the evidence presented. **AFP**

Passenger jet crashes in Pakistan; all 45 on board killed

MULTAN—A PAKISTAN INTERNATIONAL Airlines (PIA) passenger plane crashed in fields on the outskirts of the central city of Multan on Monday, killing all 45 people on board, the local police chief said.

"Everyone is dead," police chief Ifrikhar Babar told Reuters as he stood at the spot where the

Fokker aircraft, laden with fuel, exploded in flames after hitting the wall of a mango orchard.

Flight PK 688, en route for Islamabad via Lahore, was carrying 41 passengers and four crew.

The Fokker F-27 turboprop, built in 1964, crashed around 1.5 km from the airport, just two minutes after takeoff, Farooq

Shah, PIA deputy managing director, told a news conference in Karachi.

Rescue workers from the privately run relief foundation Edhi, the Civil Aviation Authority and troops helped recover the passengers' remains and sift wreckage for clues to the cause of the crash.

"There are few bodies which

are identifiable," said Shahid Pervez, a civil defense official, as rescue workers loaded charred corpses into ambulances.

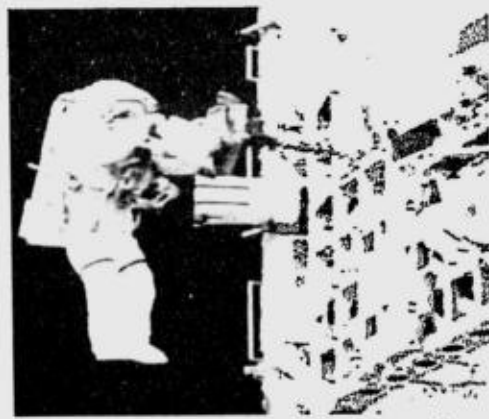
Police chief Babar quoted some witnesses as saying they saw flames coming from the aircraft shortly after it took off, and it appeared to be tilting to the right.

"I saw the plane diving down-

ward. It hit electricity wires and then crashed after hitting a wall of an orchard," said Mohammad Akram, a farmer who was working in his fields. He said the plane burst into flames after impact.

The crash occurred near a state primary school, but there were no casualties other than those on board, officials said. **Reuters**

Astronauts complete repair on space station



SPACEWALKER Piers Sellers puts away tools on the tool pallet in the Shuttle Discovery's payload bay in this Nasa TV July 10 frame grab.

REUTERS

HOUSTON—TWO SPACEWALKING Astronauts Monday replaced broken hardware deemed crucial for the completion of the International Space Station, a new success for Nasa in the 6-day-old Discovery shuttle mission.

In their second of three planned spacewalks, astronauts Mike Fossum and Piers Sellers, who arrived aboard Discovery last week with five colleagues, replaced a broken cable reel of the orbiting laboratory's construction equipment transporter.

Failure could have scuttled Nasa's Atlantis shuttle launch planned for Aug. 28, since the next mission will focus on resuming construction of the unfinished ISS, a US space agency official said.

"Phew, man, do I feel better," Rick LaBrode, the lead ISS flight director for

the current mission, told reporters.

"If we didn't get this successfully changed and checked out, then we couldn't proceed with the next mission, which is right on our heels," LaBrode said.

Fossum and Sellers performed some space acrobatics during their excursion, as one astronaut hanged horizontally at one point while the other held the large old and new cable reels for a tricky handoff.

The pair also installed a spare pump module to an external stowage platform during their nearly seven-hour spacewalk.

"Good job guys, slightly ahead of time. It's a pleasure to watch," mission control capsule commentator Julie Payette said from Houston after they placed the pump. **AFP**

India's satellite launch ends in disaster

BANGALORE—A DEEP SPACE rocket carrying India's heaviest satellite disintegrated in a fiery plume of smoke and flames seconds after lift-off Monday, dealing a crippling blow to the country's ambitious space program.

The rocket called the Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) blasted off at 1205 GMT from an island off the coast of the southeastern state of Andhra Pradesh, cartwheeling and disintegrating seconds later in clear view.

"A mishap happened in the first stage of the separation and it will be some time before we know what went wrong," Madhavan

Nair, Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) chairman, told reporters at the launch site.

Disaster struck ISRO less than a day after an unsuccessful test flight of India's Agni-III nuclear-capable missile which has a range of 4,000 km and designed to arm New Delhi with a ballistic weapon.

The 49-meter GSLV carried a 2,168-kg satellite to be put into stationary orbit at 36,000 km and programmed to boost television services for the next 10 years.

It was launched from the Satish Dhawan Space Center at Sriharikota in the Bay of Bengal. A similar GSLV successfully

placed a satellite in orbit in 2004.

Indian scientists citing preliminary data blamed snags in the separation process in both the two-stage Agni (Fire) and the three-stage GSLV as the cause for their failures.

Experts also described the unsuccessful launch as a temporary setback.

"I would describe it as a setback but not a show-stopper," said K. Santhanam, a former chief adviser of the Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO), which is developing the Agni missiles.

"Such high-technology sys-

tems do take a little time to mature ... and such mishaps are not unknown in space history," Santhanam told CNN-IBN television.

Uday Bhaskar, deputy director of the state-funded Institute of Defense Studies and Analysis, said the GSLV's failure should not be viewed as the end of road for ISRO's space program.

"There has been a setback but the scale of the setback should be placed in context because countries before India who have embarked upon satellite launch business too have gone through a similar learning curve," he said. **AFP**

WORLD BRIEFS

60 dead in Mogadishu fighting

MOGADISHU—Fighting surged in Mogadishu on Monday between Islamist militias and fighters loyal to the city's last warlords, pushing the death toll over two days to at least 60 and pounding a key hospital with artillery and gunfire. Residents feared the death toll would climb even further in the most ferocious fighting in the capital since the Islamists seized it a month ago from an alliance of US-backed warlords. Witnesses said fighters exchanged rocket, artillery and machinegun fire. "The hospital is under very heavy mortar and artillery attack and stray bullets are hitting. Chaos is everywhere in the hospital and staff are running away," Abdikadir Sheikh, a medical official at Mogadishu's Madina Hospital, told Reuters by phone as artillery and gunfire crackled behind him. **Reuters**

Britain sends more troops to Afghanistan

LONDON—Britain said Monday it will send nearly 900 more troops to southern Afghanistan between now and October to grapple with Taliban insurgents, bringing its total deployment in the area to 4,400. In a statement to parliament, Defense Secretary Des Browne added that more support helicopters would be sent to the troubled region, together with a radar installation. The extra troops will be drawn from the Royal Marines, the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, the Royal Irish Regiment and the Royal Engineers—with the latter to "accelerate the reconstruction effort." Senior military personnel, speaking on condition of anonymity, said a force of about 150 men from the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers—currently on standby in Cyprus—would be sent in the next couple days. **AFP**

US soldiers killed in revenge for rape

BAGHDAD—An al-Qaida-linked group posted a Web video Tuesday purporting to show the mutilated bodies of two US soldiers kidnapped and killed last month, claiming it killed them in revenge for the rape-slaying of a young Iraqi woman by American troops from the same unit. The Mujahideen Shura Council previously claimed responsibility for killing the two soldiers, who were snatched in a June 16 attack near the town of Yousifiyah, southwest of Baghdad, in which a third soldier was also killed. But the statement was the first time the group linked the slaying to the rape case. A statement by the group said the video was released as "revenge for our sister who was dishonored by a soldier of the same brigade." **AP**

Gay marriage fights intensify in US

BOSTON—Massachusetts' highest court ruled on Monday that voters could decide whether to ban gay marriage in the first and only state to legalize it, while a California court weighed the constitutionality of such a ban. The latest developments in the state-by-state battle over homosexual unions came four days after two major legal setbacks for backers of same-sex marriage in New York and Georgia and reflect entrenched divisions on the issue nationwide. The Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court's unanimous ruling frees state lawmakers to vote on a constitutional amendment on Wednesday that would ban both gay marriage and civil unions. If 50 lawmakers in the state's 200-member Legislature approve the measure, it goes to a second legislative vote in 2007. **Reuters**

The WORLD

Editor Luverne B. Gueco

Basayev, Russia's Bin Laden, slain

Chechen rebel leader had planned another attack to mar G8 summit

Elusive terrorist's cause in Chechnya may die too

MOSCOW—IN A LONG AND notorious career, Shamil Basayev, the elusive terrorist leader of the most vicious separatist faction in Chechnya, was an airplane hijacker, a hostage-taker, a guerrilla commander, and a war-scarred spokesperson for terror who tried to justify mass killings of civilians, even schoolchildren, for political ends and revenge.

His status as Russia's most wanted man also made him a potent symbol, the face of an insurgency in Chechnya and the nearby territories that seemed never to end.

And so when Russia announced his death on Monday, just weeks after announcing the killing of Abdul Khamid Saidulayev, the rebel Chechen president, it was the latest of almost two years of setbacks for the separatists, and raised questions about the direction of their war.

"It is kind of the end of an era for this whole movement," said

Andrew McGregor, the director of Aberfoyle International Security Analysis, in Toronto, which analyzes strategic issues in the Islamic world.

Basayev, who blended Islamic terrorism, nationalism, and Chechen codes of revenge to eclipse all other separatists, had galvanized many of the remaining fighters and terrorists operating against Russia and the pro-Kremlin Chechen proxies, who now control much of that nation, a small republic in the Caucasus.

In interviews late last year outside Russia, several active fighters who were recuperating from injuries spoke of him as a battlefield folk hero, even those who said they disagreed with some of his ruthless tactics.

Darkly charismatic, with a shaved head, expansive beard, and ready wisecracks, Basayev was one of the last active fighters from the earliest days of the war, in 1994.

New York Times News Service

MOSCOW—CHECHEN REBEL LEADER SHAMIL Basayev, Russia's most wanted man, was killed on Monday, handing a huge boost to President Vladimir Putin as he prepared to host a Group of Eight summit.

FSB security agency chief Nikolai Patrushev said Basayev, who had claimed responsibility for the bloody Beslan school siege in 2004, had been about to mount an attack in southern Russia to mar the weekend G8 summit Putin will chair in St. Petersburg.

Putin, whose already huge popularity at home will be further boosted by the news as he prepares to meet US President George W. Bush and other world leaders, said Basayev's death was "deserved retribution" for a campaign of killing.

More than 331 people, half of them children, were killed in the Beslan school siege in September 2004. Russian forces stormed the school, which had been seized by Islamist militants linked to Chechnya's fight for independence.

"This is deserved retribution against the bandits for our children in Beslan ... for all these acts of terror they committed in Moscow and other Russian regions," Putin said in televised comments.

Patrushev said Basayev, with



TWO soldiers walk past the wreckage of a truck damaged by an explosion that is believed to have killed Chechen rebel leader Shamil Basayev (left photo) in the village of Ekazhevo in the southern Russian region of Ingushetia July 10.



REUTERS

other Chechen fighters, was killed in an operation by special forces in Ingushetia, a region neighboring Chechnya.

"They intended to use this terrorist act to put pressure on Russia's leadership at a time when the G8 summit was being held," said Patrushev.

Officials said Basayev was killed when his group's explosive-laden truck blew up. They said they found fragments of Basayev's prosthetic leg and his head, with its distinctive beard.

A rebel website confirmed Basayev was dead, calling him a

"shakhid" or holy martyr. But it said there had been no special operation by Russian forces.

"The Chechen commander died when a truck loaded with explosives accidentally blew up," the www.kavkazcenter.com site quoted a rebel spokesperson as saying. *Reuters*

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POLISH President Lech Kaczynski (left) shakes hands with his twin brother Jaroslaw Kaczynski, after naming him Poland's new premier. *AP*

Poland's president picks twin brother as new PM

WARSAW—POLISH PRESIDENT Lech Kaczynski appointed Jaroslaw Kaczynski, his identical twin brother and the chairman of the governing Law and Justice party, as prime minister during a ceremony at the presidential palace.

Wearing a black suit, the president shook hands with his brother—who looked almost indistinguishable except for his gray suit—and wished him luck in forming a new government.

"I wish the new prime minister designate, chairman Jaroslaw Kaczynski, luck in forming his new government," the president said Monday.

In brief remarks, Jaroslaw Kaczynski pledged to work to cleanse Poland of what he considers the corruption that flourished in the years since the fall of communism in 1989-1990, one of his favorite themes.

"The work of the Cabinet that I hope will be formed within the next few days will concentrate on everything aiming to fix the state," Kaczynski said. "This goal is in

essence our one goal. Poland needs fixing, needs deep rebuilding."

The president also warmly thanked outgoing Prime Minister Kazimierz Marcinkiewicz, who officially stepped down earlier Monday, for his hard work in "rebuilding the state."

Marcinkiewicz resigned amid reports of disagreements over economic policy between him and Jaroslaw Kaczynski, who was widely regarded as the power behind the scenes of the outgoing government. He is now to become the party's candidate for mayor of Warsaw.

Jaroslaw Kaczynski has said his future Cabinet would continue the pro-social welfare policies of Marcinkiewicz's government. Law and Justice sealed a coalition deal in May with two Euro-skeptical parties—the farm-based Self-Defense and the Roman Catholic League of Polish Families.

The new prime minister now has 14 days to form his Cabinet, and then another two weeks to win a confidence vote in parliament. *AP*

Mexico bet shows 'fraud' video

MEXICO CITY—LEFTIST CANDIDATE Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador alleged on Monday he has "irrefutable" videotape proof of fraud in last week's presidential balloting as his supporters promised nonstop street demonstrations until he gets a recount.

Lopez Obrador launched an official challenge to the July 2 election late Sunday, after losing to conservative Felipe Calderon by some 244,000 votes—little more than half a percent of the 41.7 million ballots cast.

Mexico's election tribunal took up the case on Monday after Lopez Obrador's organization delivered 900 pages docu-

menting alleged vote fraud late Sunday.

The leftist's campaign chief, Jesus Ortega, warned of nationwide protests: "The struggle will begin Wednesday, and will be on going, with hundreds of thousands, perhaps millions of people." They plan to jam Mexico City's Zocalo square and to march on the capital from 300 election districts.

A screening of the videotapes showed one person stuffing six allegedly pro-Calderon ballots into a ballot box in Guanajuato, the home state of President Vicente Fox and a base for Calderon's National Action Party (PAN). *AFP*



WHAT'S INSIDE

**Judoka
Baylon nails
gold in
Thailand/A27**

SPORTS

Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres

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**Italian fans
to Azzurri: Grazie
for World Cup
victory /A28**



Bulls gun for equalizer vs Giants

RED BULL COACH YENG
Guiao still cannot tell if his flat-lined team has finally come back to life. Today's game will give him a clearer picture.

GAME TODAY
(Araneta Coliseum)
5:30 p.m.—Annual
Awards
7:45 p.m.—Purefoods
vs Red Bull
(Finals: Game 4)

What he is sure of, though, is the faith he has in his squad.

"At this point, I believe we have the ability to come back," said the no-nonsense Bulls mentor.

Red Bull will try to validate that faith when it takes on Purefoods in Game 4, seeking to equalize the best-of-seven series for the Gran Matador Brandy PBA Philippine Cup at the Araneta Coliseum.

The Bulls averted a 0-3 hole Sunday night, gunning to life their running game and hitting their shots from the perimeter to cut the Giants' series lead to 2-1 with a key 89-79 victory, also at the Big Dome.

"I'm not going to say we have fully recovered," Guiao said. "But if we even up [today], the series will become more interesting."

Purefoods coach Ryan Gregorio knows that the effort his team put into building a 2-0 cushion will be laid to waste if the Giants allow the Bulls to equalize, thus the young mentor has begun second-guessing his Red Bull counterpart.

"Game 4 will definitely be the key," Gregorio admitted. "We know we can never anticipate the next move of Red Bull, but I'm assuming that since its new formula worked, they might do it again."

Gregorio need not look far for answers.

After taking Games 1 and 2 of the series, which is supported by Welcoat Paints, on torrid shooting from the perimeter, the Giants suddenly lost their outside touch, shooting a dismal 37.7 percent in Game 3 that was made worse by the team's agony from the three-point range.

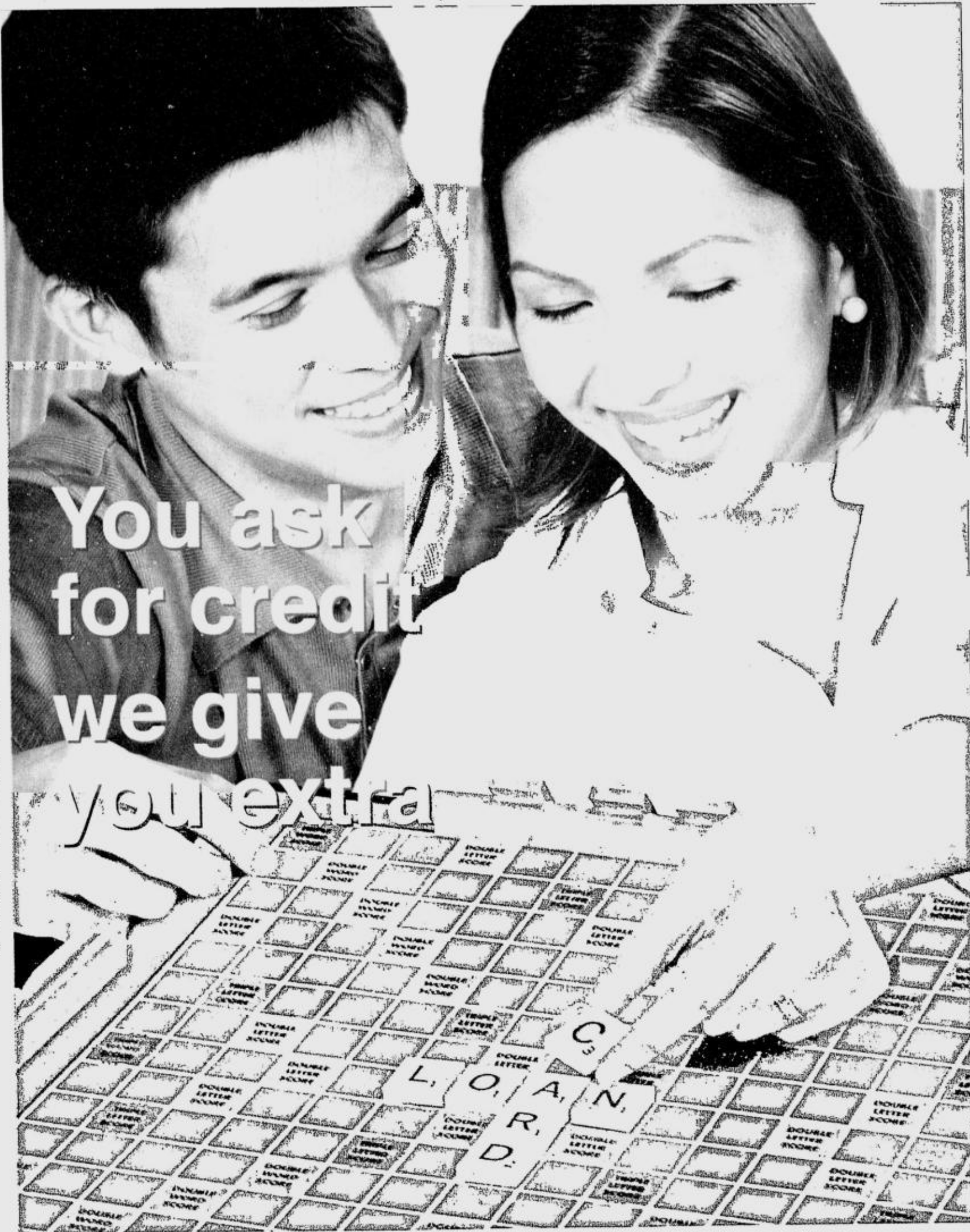
Without their usual hits from afar, the Giants had no recourse but to pass the burden of lighting up the scoreboards to James Yap and Kerby Raymundo.

"Noy didn't have a good start and it affected the flow of our offense," said Gregorio. "When he started to miss, we relied on James and Kerby instead."

And Yap also struggled. While Castillo went 0-of-6 from the three-point area, Yap shot even worse: he misfired all of his eight triples.

Right before Game 4, the season's best players will be honored in an event dubbed the Leo Prieto Annual Awards. Yap, Raymundo and Red Bull slotman Enrico Villanueva are battling it out for what is the closest MVP race in recent years.

Red Bull's Lordy Tugade and Marc Pingris of Purefoods are also in the running. June Navarro



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San Mig-RP breaks ice in Jones Cup

THE SAN MIGUEL-PHILIPPINE NATIONAL team finally won one yesterday, surviving a young Australian side, 76-67, in the elimination round of the 2006 William Jones Cup basketball championship in Taiwan.

The Filipinos stayed in the hunt for a Final Four slot with the win, their first after opening with three straight losses at the Taipei Physical Education College Gym.

Next up for the back-to-the-wall Filipinos will be Kazakhstan today, the first of four matches they need to sweep in order to advance to the last four.

Yancy de Ocampo and Dondon Hontiveros combined for 13 points in the pivotal third quarter as SMC-Pilipinas opened a 15-point lead before settling for a 56-47 edge.

"Ironically, we won playing our worst game thus far," said coach Chot Reyes.

Joseph Yeo and Ali Peek led SMC-Pilipinas with 14 points, De Ocampo had 12, Hontiveros 9, and Arigo 8 points.

A young South Korean team made up of collegiate standouts humbled the millionaire Filipino pros, 96-88, on Monday even as the American Athletes In Action squad stayed tied for the lead with darkhorse Qatar at 3-0.

The tumble against the Koreans followed losses to the Taiwanese, 77-72, and Qatar, 68-63.

Musong R. Castillo

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SPORTS

Numbers count for RP Junior World golf bets



By Jong Arcano

SAN DIEGO—THERE WILL be over a thousand jungolfers from about 50 countries—including the host, which has plucked talents from 40 states—and only 12 titles at stake when the 2006 Junior World Golf Championships kick off Tuesday (Wednesday in Manila).

Aside from being a test of shot-making skills, the Junior World has become a battle against numbers for the participating countries, and the 48-strong Philippine delegation will take a shot at those little crystal trophies

whose sizes do not reflect the magnitude of their significance.

"You really don't go through the pain of traveling all the way from the Philippines and not have a winning attitude," said Bang Mamaril, president of the Jungolf Foundation of the Philippines and RP delegation head.

"These kids know that a trophy, whether it's first, second or third [place], is worth fighting for."

For 6-year-old Chloe Reyes, the only female Filipino bet in the youngest age division and making her first appearance here, as well as Mia Legaspi and Abby Arevalo, both 7, their task is to try to craft a fitting culmination to a

year of hard work.

On the other hand, for current stars like Dottie Ardina, Wolen Superal, Miguel Tabuena, JR Gonzales and Debbie de Villa, the task is to continue a work in progress.

On their shoulders lie the hopes of the Philippines to sustain a streak of two winning years—and three of the last four—that started with JR Gonzales' victory in the 7-8 class in 2004.

Superal blew away the boys' 11-12 field with a record-breaking score of 21 under par last year, and Ardina, who lost her golf set to thieves on Sunday, won the girls' 8-under in 2002.

The RP kids' stint is supported by

Philippine Airlines, Samsung, Pagcor, PCSO and ICTSI, which spends for a stable of talents.

Interest has also been rekindled in the 15-17 division, one that hasn't been sparked ever since Ramon Brobio won that class in 1988.

The player who has drawn a lot of attention here is Tonton Asistio, who tied for eighth last year—the first top 10 finish by a Filipino in more than a decade. Asistio will be seeking more than jungolf glory when he kicks off his bid at Torrey Pines.

A strong finish here could reel in a scholarship offer from any of the scouts of top universities who will see

the action at the site of the 2008 US Open.

Winning in the Junior World was how the likes of Jennifer Rosales and Jayvie Agojo got their scholarships to top US schools.

Competition will be held in the following courses: Torrey Pines for Class A, Riverwalk and Sycuan Resort for Classes B and E, Cottonwood for Class C, Welk Resort and Lake San Marcos for Class D and the pitch-and-putt Colina Park for Class F.

The Philippines has 10 entries in Class A, nine in Class B, 10 in Class C, seven in Class D, nine in Class E and four in Class F.

Red Lions eye share of lead versus Stags

STREAKING SAN BEDA CHALLENGES SAN Sebastian even as embattled teams Perpetual and Jose Rizal battle each other today in the NCAA men's basketball at the Ninoy Aquino Stadium.

The Red Lions are on a roll with three straight victories going into the 4 p.m. game against the Stags who are on a roller-coaster ride so far in the eliminations.

With electrifying rookies Samuel Ekwe and Pong Escobar providing the spark, the Red Lions are hoping to join idle Philippine Christian University at the top with a victory against the Stags who are at the middle of the pack with a 2-3 record.

But San Beda coach Koy Banal admitted that it won't be a walk in the park for his charges as the Stags are raring to prove themselves after former star Leo Najorda left them to join the pro ranks.

"You can't take the Stags lightly because they are young and the coach is full of enthusiasm and vision for the team," added Banal.

Coach by newcomer Raymond Valenzona, the Stags will have to count on big men Jayson Ballesteros and Francis de Leon and big scorers Jim Viray and Red Vicente to realize that dream.

Their first task, of course, is to stop Ekwe, the

STANDINGS	W	L
PCU	4	1
Letran	3	0
San Beda	3	1
Mapua	2	2
S. Sebastian	2	3
St. Benilde	1	3
Perpetual	1	3
Jose Rizal	0	3

GAMES TODAY
(Ninoy Aquino Stadium)
12 noon—Perpetual vs. JRU (Jrs/Srs)
4 p.m.—San Beda vs. SSC (Srs/Jrs)

guard position with aplomb, enjoying the license to shoot from the floor.

In the other seniors game, Perpetual and Jose Rizal hope to catch a lift that will put them back in orbit in the 2 p.m. match.

Both on a three-game slide, the Altas and the Heavy Bombers scramble to get out of the bottom end of the standings although Perpetual has a better record having won its first game. **Marv Anthony Reyes**



PHILIPPINE Christian U hotshot Gabriel Espinas shoots over Jose Rizal's Floyd Dedicatoria during their game Monday. PCU won, 81-77. **ERIKARAZAS**

Football body 'should be judged by peers'

By Musong R. Castillo

DISGRUNTLED THEY MIGHT BE, TWO regional football associations (FAs) still want the governing Philippine Football Federation to be judged by its peers.

Officials of the two FAs said that taking the problem outside the confines of the football family would be the group's last resort.

"If he believes that he is right, and if he is man enough, let's call a congress," Laguna FA president Jun Pacificador said yesterday, in issuing a challenge to PFF president Johnny Romualdez.

Pacificador spoke in yesterday's PSA Forum where he was joined by retired general Honesto Isleta, a former PFF president; and National Capital Region FA head Jose Vito Borromeo.

The group's tirade was fueled by the federation's continued refusal to submit its financial records for auditing.

Borromeo had earlier said that Romualdez's refusal was enough ground for the filing of an estafa case against the PFF.

"If the PFF is not hiding anything, then

why not allow us to conduct the audit," Borromeo said. "(Going to the courts) is an option. But if we can settle it in a congress, it would be better."

Pacificador told the public sports forum sponsored by Pagcor, the Manila City government and the Manila Sports Council that only a congress can change the present PFF leadership.

"He (Romualdez) refuses to answer the issues (hurled against him) and keeps the real score to himself," Pacificador, a college professor at De La Salle University, said.

"Replace Romualdez and we will see good changes in Philippine football."

Pacificador and Borromeo also accused Romualdez of mismanaging the PFF, of gross negligence and of wanton spending of the federation's funds.

Isleta said he is willing to occupy his old job at the PFF "if it could bring football back to its glorious past."

The two FAs want an audit to determine where about P90 million in PFF funds was spent in the last three years and how P40 million was budgeted for this year.

SPORTSWATCH

Makati 5-cock derby 2nd round today

ROUND TWO OF THE P3-MILLION "SALPUKAN SA TAGLUGON" 5-COCK derby gets under way today at the Makati Coliseum with 60 encounters on tap and B-Meg Derby Ace as sponsor. The opening round Monday was dominated by underdog entries led by RS Fairview of Roger Segismundo, Scepter (Nonoy Gonzales), Heaven (Wilmer Ting), Something Nice (William Co), Super Wac Wac (C. Malapitan), Spartan's RB (Ray Briones), Princess Pamela (Honey Yu), Greenfield and Singkamas Pride. Elimination rounds are also set on July 15, 17 and 19. A special prize of P100,000 will be divided among participants who will score two points. For inquiries, call 895-6475 or 896-3545.

P100,000 at stake in Sta. Ana cockfest

A PRIZE POT OF NO LESS THAN P100,000 AWAITS THE WINNERS IN THE "Fastest Win One-Cock Ulutan" this Saturday at the Sta. Ana Cockpit on AP Reyes Avenue, Makati City. The event, which will start at 11 a.m., is expected to draw more than 100 entries, said host Nilo Lukan. Entry fee is P1,100. The fastest win champion will get the P30,000 jackpot prize. Pit manager Butchoy Olano said the event, popular among small-time cockers and breeders, will be held at the venue every Saturday. For inquiries, call 898-3474 or 898-3475.

Race 1—(Qr/Tr)—He's A Baling	(1) Sony Bird (7), Blackstar's
Race 2—(Qr/Tr)—Classic Royale	(1) Mye Lady Havat/Pura Energy (4), Yoo Man (7)
Race 3—(Penta/Gr/Tr)—Brain Basher	(3) Spark (13), Freedom Charger (8), Yoo Sir
Race 4—(Penta/Gr/Tr)—Don't	Dance (3), Day's Gold (7)

BY TOP CHOICE

Mye Lady Havat/Pura Energy (4), Yoo Man (7), Spark (13), Freedom Charger (8), Yoo Sir (5), Don't Dance (3), Day's Gold (7)

Race 5—(Penta/Gr/Tr)—King Poppy	(1) War Bird (6), Silent Operator (7), Top Of D'Luna
Race 6—(Super/Gr/Tr)—Speed Bullet	(5) Casanova (3), Santana (7), Crew Cut (4), Tene Quositi (10), Jet-prop/Sharp Cockle (11)
Race 7—(Penta/Gr/Tr)—True Account (4), SuperAmerica (3), Southside (9), Lord Beam (10), Baling Garden (7)	
Race 8—(Super/Gr/Tr)—Speed Bullet	(5) Casanova (3), Santana (7), Crew Cut (4), Tene Quositi (10), Jet-prop/Sharp Cockle (11)

Ozamiz sweeps Tagaytay, barges into NBC finals

OZAMIZ CITY—DEFENDING CHAMPION OZAMIZ Cotta ripped Batang Tagaytay, 81-70, in Game 2 Monday night and clinched the first finals slot in the 2006 Guerrero Brandy-NBC national basketball championship at the Gov. Angel Medina Sr. gym.

Six-foot-nine slotman Dom Yabut, Gerry Cavan and Bob Cozy Ilanga stepped up after Ozamiz's scoring machines, Marlon Basco and Billy Bansil, were handcuffed by Mayor Bambol Tolentino's Tagaytay cagers to complete the Cotta Shrine squad's sweep of the best-of-three semifinal series.

The Ozamiz five of Mayor Reynaldo Parojinog will dispute the title against the winner of the other semifinals pitting Spring Cooking Oil-Paranaque and Pagadian. NBC president Nathaniel "Tac" Padilla's Cooking Oil Masters lead 1-0 and need to win once more in Pagadian tomorrow to arrange the title showdown.

Yabut collected 10 points on five-of-six shooting and grabbed 10 rebounds to pace Ozamiz, which is gunning for a back-to-back title in the

tourney sponsored by Panasonic, Sulpicio Lines, Nature's Spring Mineral Water, Spring Cooking Oil, Regent Foods, Firefly Lightings, Molten and Prime Channel.

The scores:
OZAMIZ 81—Cavan 13, Yabut 10, Llangco 10, Ilanga 9, Basco 9, Bansil 8, Guerrero 7, Alberto 6, Sampilo 4, Caylan 3, Alvarado 2, Lapera 0, Libatog 0, Delina 0, Cabigkis 0.

TAGAYTAY 70—Marquez 14, Mallari 12, Gulyab 8, Finuliar 7, Robillos 6, Caceres 6, Reyes 5, Mendoza 4, Pelojera 2, Sta. Maria 0, Canido 0, Mordeno 0.

Quarters: 22-21, 39-34, 59-53, 61-70

BARE EYE

Recab Trinidad

RECAH Trinidad was unable to transmit his column due to power failure in his area. Bare Eye will see print on Thursday. —Ed



Tejadas want GAB inquiry

HOW TIME FLIES, especially for people who are having a lot of fun.

But not for cager Eugene Tejada whose two-month confinement at the Makati Medical Center must seem like decades, centuries even.

Yes, it's been two months since the Mother's Day Accident and, unlike my previous calls to Eugene's father Danny, he had something new to tell me yesterday.

"Eugene's left hand grip is getting stronger, and he can now sit up at a 90-degree angle for 10 to 15 minutes without getting dizzy," he said.

Danny also informed me that his lawyer has filed a letter of appeal to the Games and Amusements Board seeking a full-blown investigation into the May 14 incident at the Ynares Center which rendered Eugene paralyzed from the waist down.

"We want to know exactly how it happened and why it took 40 minutes before Eugene could be brought to the hospital," Danny said.

He said it's too early to tell, but I have a strong feeling the GAB appeal will only serve as a prelude to a court suit.

Otherwise, what's the purpose of the investigation?

Filipino basketball fans in Taiwan must be very disappointed.

The Philippine team competing in the ongoing 2006 William Jones Cup has lost its first three games.

Coach Chot Reyes' boys bowed to the national team of Qatar, 68-63; the national team of Taiwan, 77-72; and to the Korea University All-Stars, 96-88.

With the 0-3 record, it is unlikely for Chot's Pilipinas Basketball team to duplicate last year's third-place finish. Even making it to fourth in the 10-squad tournament might prove very difficult.

The Jones Cup games will be aired on Solar Sports at 8 p.m. today, and every night thereafter at around the same time. Solar's Jude Turcuato will be doing the annotation.

Also scheduled at 6 p.m. today at the Araneta Coliseum, just before Game 4 of the Philippine Cup Best-of-Seven championship series, is the 2006 MVP Awards rites.

The word won't be official until 6 p.m., but according to the grapevine, Purefoods' James Yap has run off with the coveted individual plum. Reports also have it that as early as three days ago, teammate and fellow-MVP contender Kerby Raymundo had congratulated James, who is said to have been very touched by the gesture.

They said James felt very grateful to his teammate because he knew it took a great deal of humility for anyone to do something like that.

This year, PLDT head honcho Manny V. Pangilinan will celebrate his 50-something birthday with two major activities—a concert at the Meralco Theatre featuring Gary Valenciano, Regine Velasquez and Lani Misalucha (who was flown in from Las Vegas for the occasion), and the MVP Cup, an international badminton showdown featuring some of the finest players from Asia and Europe.

The concert, which will be preceded by "heavy cocktails," will be held on July 13, the eve of MVP's birthday, while the MVP Cup, which is envisioned to determine which of the two continents is truly the best in badminton, will be staged at the Araneta Coliseum from July 14 to 16.

A total of \$100,000 in prize money is at stake in this year's competition.

Ateneo coach Norman Black looked drained after the game against National University on opening day of the 2006 UAAP season.

"We had a tough game," said Norman who admitted he did not expect coach Manny Dandan's Bulldogs to put up such a solid defense against the Blue Eagles.

Nevertheless, "a win is a win," said Norman.

Young Irish speed devil makes AF3 a 3-way fight

THEY'RE NOT SAYING IT OUT LOUD YET BUT EVERYBODY is casting a wary eye at Ali Jackson, the 17-year-old lead driver of Ireland's Aran Racing who won the last round of the Asian Formula Three Series at the Zhuhai International Circuit in China last month and is looking formidable going into Rounds 6 to 9 this weekend.

Even Filipinos Tyson Sy and Dado Peña, who have four victories between them, were amazed at how Jackson, new ace of the Irish team in place of countryman John O'Hara, posted a runaway victory in wet conditions in Guangdong province.

AF3 Corp. chair Ed Peña, however, attributed Jackson's high-powered performance so far to the Irish team's doggedness in putting a lot of miles in their racing machine in the off-season.

"He's [Jackson's] done a lot of testing in the off-season," said the elder Peña, "and the rewards are coming out."

Peña said the results of the coming races, set on Saturday and Sunday at the 4.3-kilometer Zhuhai track, will depend largely on prevailing conditions.

"Europeans are used to racing in wet conditions and Jackson showed this in Round 5," he said. "We will see

how the coming races develop. If it rains, Jackson and the other Europeans will certainly have the edge.

"If it doesn't, Dado and Tyson can give them all a good fight. We expect a tough three-way fight for honors."

On the strength of his Round 5 win, Jackson has climbed into a tie for third and fourth overall with the younger Peña at 52 points, just four points behind Briton Dillon Battistini of JA Motorsports. Sy, of Speedtech Asia, still shows the way with 87 points.

In all, 14 drivers will be on the grid on Saturday, including Briton James Winslow who is fifth with 42 points.

PSC picks up tab for P30-M Philsoc debt

THE PHILIPPINE SPORTS COMMISSION yesterday announced that it will shoulder the P30 million debts of the Philippine Southeast Asian Games Organizing Committee in exchange for the sports equipment which Philsoc purchased for the 2005 SEA Games.

PSC chair William "Butch" Ramirez

said he has signed a memo with the officials of the Philippine Olympic Committee and Philsoc stating that the agency will be paying the suppliers the remaining balance for the equipment.

In return, the Philsoc will hand over the sports equipment worth P100 million to the agency for the use of the

1,000-plus national athletes, he said. Ramirez said the gesture is part of the government commitment to help the Philsoc defray its expenses for the staging of the SEAG last December.

"If we can raise the money next week, then we will pay next week," said Ramirez. **Marc Anthony Reyes**



BAYLON: Beats Korean

Baylon nails gold

SEVEN-TIME SOUTHEAST ASIAN GAMES gold medalist John Baylon added another feather on his cap by topping his class in the 2006 Thailand International Judo Championships held over the weekend in Chanthaburi, Thailand.

Baylon, still the country's top judoka at 41, bested all his opponents in the -81kg division to claim the gold in this tournament participated in by 18 countries from all over Asia.

Baylon beat Kim Young-hwan of Korea in the finals with an ippon in 12 seconds.

"Everybody was surprised by what he (Baylon) did," said Philippine Amateur Judo Association president Dave Carter. "That Korean guy is one of the top judoka in his country."

The Nationals also brought home a silver medal courtesy of Sidney Schwarzkopf in the -90 kg class. Completing the team were Gilbert Ramirez (-73 kg), Franco Teves (-55 kg), Elmarie Malasan (-52 kg), Estie Gay Liwanen (-57 kg), Lou-Ann Jindani (-63 kg), Erika Joy Ponciano (+78 kg), and coach Anecia Pedrosa.

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SPORTS

Fans to Azzurri: Grazie

Italy toasts World Cup champs

ROME—ROMANS LOST THEMSELVES IN FESTIVE frenzy Monday as the Italian capital threw a massive welcoming embrace around the World Cup and the men who wrenched it so dramatically from the festival of the world's top football nations in Germany.

Rome's left-wing mayor, Walter Veltroni, estimated that one million people had turned out to welcome home the conquering heroes as the team held a victory parade through the city.

Men, women and children screamed their joy as skipper Fabio Cannavaro proudly held aloft the gold trophy at the front of an open-topped bus. People scrambled atop stationary public transport buses and even Carabinieri Land Rovers to get a better vantage point as the bus turned into Piazza Venezia.

The team, some wrapped in the Italian tricolor, seemed eager to encourage even greater frenzy as the bus inched its way through the throng.

The trophy in one hand, Cannavaro cupped a palm to his ear as if to encourage an even louder response from the crowd, while Alessandro Del Piero stood precariously on a seat and pumped his arms up and down like a rock star.

Prime Minister Romano Prodi, perhaps indulging in a childhood dream, could not resist holding the cup aloft as he hosted a victory reception for the heroes at his offices earlier.

"We here at home shared with you a tension and suffering without equal," during the month-long competition, Prodi told the 23-member squad, many of whom proudly wore their gold winners' medals over their suits.

"Thanks for reminding the younger generation that achievement is wrought with effort, sweat and commitment," added Prodi. "Grazie. All Italians love you!"

The prime minister, whose beleaguered government is hoping to ride a wave of optimism to revive a near moribund economy after the World Cup triumph, handed each of the players a medal during the reception.

The event began more than 90 minutes behind schedule after the team bus, followed by a cacophonous posse of scooters trailing flags, was repeatedly slowed to a crawl on its way into the city.

The Azzurri's plane had touched down at a military airbase outside Rome two hours earlier, and fans who had waited hours to welcome them finally erupted into cheers when Cannavaro emerged onto the gangway with the trophy. AFP



ITALIAN skipper Fabio Cannavaro holds up the World Cup.

WORLD SPORTS

France to Zidane: We forgive you

PARIS—Most French forgive soccer idol Zinedine Zidane for his savage head-butt against Italy's Marco Materazzi in the World Cup final, according to a poll published Tuesday. Even if the rest of the sporting world remains appalled by the move, the poll shows that in France, 61 percent forgive the now-retired team captain for the head-butt, which earned him an expulsion in the final minutes of Sunday's game and marked a shocking end to his illustrious career. France lost 5-3 in penalty kicks. More than 50 percent of the 802 respondents said they understood the star's reaction, according to the poll conducted by telephone by CSA polling agency published in Tuesday's *Le Parisien* newspaper. AP

Mauresmo tightens grip on No. 1 spot

MIAMI, FLORIDA—Amelie Mauresmo's Wimbledon singles title, the first by a Frenchwoman in 81 years, enabled the 27-year-old to consolidate her position on top of the WTA rankings released Monday. Mauresmo beat Belgium's Justine Henin-Hardenne, 2-6, 6-3, 6-4, on Saturday for her second Grand Slam title. Mauresmo's margin over No. 2 Kim Clijsters of Belgium improved from 147 points to 314, with Henin-Hardenne remaining third. Russia's Maria Sharapova remained fourth. AFP

McLaren announces Montoya's sub

PARIS—Pedro de la Rosa will replace Colombian Juan Pablo Montoya, who is shifting to NASCAR's stockcar racing, driving for the McLaren-Mercedes Formula One team, it was announced on Tuesday. The Spaniard will compete for McLaren at this Sunday's French Grand Prix, the team said. "McLaren-Mercedes and Juan Pablo Montoya have reached agreement that the driver will relinquish his place for the forthcoming world championship races," a press release said. AFP

Xavier keeps lead in futsal tourney

THE XAVIER ALUMNI FOOTBALL Club crushed Pagcor, 17-1, to stay unchallenged at the top, even as the AFP Selection outstayed Ateneo, 7-4, in the featured matches held over the weekend in the men's second division-A of the 2006 Adidas Futsal Championship at the Blue Eagle Gym in Ateneo.

Xavier's Benjamin Mendoza scored five goals against Pagcor's spotty defense, even as Raymond Cardova and Joselito Joson chipped in two each to complete the rout and put Xavier firmly on top with a 4-0-1 (win-draw-loss) card in the men's second division-A.

The men from AFP, meanwhile,

had a difficult time beating Ateneo on its own turf.

After posting a 5-2 lead in the first half, the AFP Selection matched the Eagles' output in the second frame to finally secure the win—and solo second spot—in the tournament sponsored by Adidas in cooperation with the National Capital Region Football Association.

PJ Selarde and Lyndon Zamora scored the team's first four goals, which helped ice AFP's third win. Ateneo slipped to 2-0-2.

In the other match in the men's second division-A, University of Asia & the Pacific whitewashed Marines A, 6-0, to improve their mark to 3-0-0.

TOUR DE FRANCE

A doping crisis and 7 stages but still no Armstrong heir

BORDEAUX—THE FIRST PHASE OF THE Tour de France has included a doping crisis, a prologue, seven road stages and a time trial but not the emergence of an heir apparent to seven-times champion Lance Armstrong.

During the opening week until Monday's rest day in Bordeaux, the 93rd edition of the Tour has been a race by elimination.

Among the pre-Tour favorites, German Jan Ullrich, Italian Ivan Basso and Spaniard Francisco Mancebo were the first to disappear after being implicated in a Spanish doping probe.

That also denied Kazakh Alexander Vinokourov the chance to ride as five of his colleagues were linked to the investigation, forcing the Astana team to withdraw.

Spaniard Alejandro Valverde pulled out after fracturing his collarbone in a crash during the third stage.

The overall leader's yellow jersey jumped from shoulders to shoulders until 36-year-old Ukrainian Serhiy Honchar of the T-Mobile team, claimed it with victory in the seventh stage, a 52-kilometers time trial.

The race against the clock was regarded as the first real test of the Tour but it gave few indications about the hierarchy of the post-Armstrong era.

Among the favorites, the best mark went to American Floyd Landis, a former lieutenant to the retired Armstrong. The other winners were the T-Mobile team with six riders in the top 14 of the overall standings.

Landis was second to Honchar on Saturday, one minute and one second. However, he defeated German Andreas Kloeckner (T-Mobile) by 42 seconds, Discovery Channel leader George Hincapié by 1:41 and Levi Leipheimer (Gerolsteiner) by 5:05. Reuters

BF Resort rules Nokia golf

BF RESORT VILLAGE DOMINATED THE FIELD at Valley Golf Club the way it did at Forest Hills and assembled a tournament-best 308 to top the Nokia 3 division of the 2006 Nokia Cup inter-village golf tournament in Antipolo Monday.

Robert Reyes, a 10-handicapper, atoned for his so-so 31-point output in the first round of the 36-hole elim at Forest Hills by firing the maximum 40 points under the Stableford scoring system as he powered the BFRV golfers' romp into the grand finals.

BF Resort thus wound up with a 601, counting its first round score of 286, to post a seven-

point victory over the combined team of Cinco Hermanos/Monte Vista, which turned in a 300 for a 594 in the tournament sponsored by Nokia.

Valle Verde 3/5 shot a 300 for a 582 as it finished third while former champion Greenhills 1 rallied with a 305 to snatch fourth place with a 571 and the last berth in the grand finals of this event supported by Pan West, BJ Marthel, Aktivade, Copacabana Apartment-Hotel, ImmuVit, CIBA Vision, Pisanti, Agua Vida-Magallanes, Forth & Tay and Citibank.

San Lorenzo struggled with a 282 and slid to fifth with a 571.

Marathon listing ends today

RUNNING ENTHUSIASTS FROM METRO Manila and nearby provinces will have until today to register for the National Capital Region leg of the 30th National MILO Marathon at the Quirino Grandstand slated on Sunday.

Race Director Rudy Biscocho is expecting more than 15,000 runners to participate in the Kiddies 3K, 5K and 10K events as well as the 42K elimination race.

In the 28 other qualifying races this year, only the top three finishers in the men's and women's divisions get slots to the MILO Marathon finals on Dec. 10.

In the Metro Manila leg, all male runners who finish the 42K race in less than four hours and all the female runners who reach the finish line within four and a half hours are qualified to compete in the 42K grand finale.

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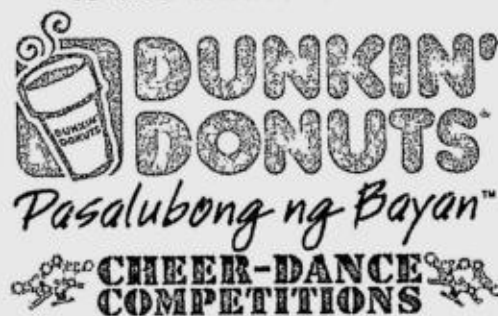
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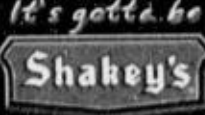


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Fun with a capital 'N'!

By Dianne M. Villafuerte
Junior INQUIRER

"NICK-NICK-NICK-NI-NICK-Nick-Nick-Nickelodeon!"

Heavy rains couldn't stop the kids from trooping to the Star City Complex on Saturday. With parents and yayas in tow, they packed the Aliw Theater for the Nickelodeon Kids' Choice Awards 2006 Preview Party.

Avid fans of the popular kiddie channel were treated to an afternoon of fun and games to celebrate the awards' 19th anniversary.

Hosted by Nickelodeon's Noel dela Rosa and Alexa Ortega, the event was "circus-centric"—complete with acrobats, jugglers, a magician and a mime artist. The kids ooh-ed and aah-ed the time away. They were also treated to an exclusive preview of the Kids' Choice Awards 2006 held in April in Los Angeles and airing July 15. Guest band Sandwich brought the house down with "Sugod," the latest single off its latest album. The young ones sang along, to the amusement of the adults. What, this generation already knows how to rock?

Feeling 'weird'

Little Big Star champion Sam Concepcion elicited screams even before he was introduced. He wowed everyone with his dance moves. Then the crowd went wild as the multitalented 13-year-old was announced as this year's Pinoy Wannabe awardee and got slimed—a "prestigious" Nick tradition.

Sam, who had won the nods of Nick viewers who voted via text messages or through the Nickelodeon Web site, bested four other nominees: Pinoy Big Brother heartthrob Sam Milby, actress and commercial model Iza Calzado, boxing champ Manny Pacquiao, and TV host and Pinoy Big Brother Celebrity sweetheart Bianca Gonzalez.

Asked how it felt to be this year's Pinoy Wannabe, Sam said, "It's exciting! I've been dying to get one of those orange blimps! I'm just really happy." Didn't he find it weird that kids looked up to him when he's just a kid himself? "Well, now that you've mentioned it," he said, "yes, it actually feels weird! I myself should have someone to look up to! [On the other hand], that's okay. It should make me more responsible and help me stay grounded."

Previous Pinoy Wannabe awardees are Sarah Geronimo (2004) and Kitchie Nadal (2005).

Catch the telecast of Kids' Choice Awards 2006 on July 15 at 12 p.m. on Nickelodeon.



WANNABE '06 Sam
Concepcion gets slimed, as tradition dictates, top right. This was after he got his orange blimp, top, from hosts Noel and Alexa Ortega ... and SpongeBob! The Nick voters were as these acrobats, above, flipped and tossed each other in the air.

PHOTOS: RODEL ROTONI

Cinemalaya director says this year's rules revised

By Marinel R. Cruz

THE RULES AND REGULATIONS for this year's Cinemalaya Independent Film Festival were revised to "make the event run smoothly," according to festival director Nestor Jardin.

Jardin, who is also president of the Cultural Center of the Philippines, said some key points in the written agreement between Cinemalaya and the filmmakers were

Jardin. "After this festival, we will have an evaluation."

A total of 108 full-length feature entries were submitted to the selection committee in September last year, said Feleo.

The selection committee was composed of Ma. Marta Ines Dayrit, Robbie Tan, Jeffrey Jeturian, Armando "Bing" Lao and INQUIRER Entertainment columnist Nestor U. Torre.

"The finalists were asked to submit a finished script instead of just a detailed treatment of their films," explained Feleo. "On Nov. 29, Lao conducted a one-day writing workshop for them. A month later, their scripts were finished."

On Feb. 24, the finalists began production and on May 30, final copies were submitted. Each finalist is entitled to a P500,000 seed grant from the Cinemalaya.

Disqualified

Finalist Jon Lazam's "Mga Anino sa Apuhap," was disqualified for failing to complete requirements, while Khavn dela Cruz's final copy of his entry "Larombata" did not beat the May 30 deadline.

(Another 10 finalists, for short film feature, were chosen by selection committee members Emily Abrera, Narciso "Jun" Reyes, Juaniyo Arcellana, Antonio Jose "Butch" Perez and Socorro "Socchie" Fernandez. Short features do not get subsidies.)

"We give young filmmakers all the help [possible]," said festival monitoring committee chair Robbie Tan.

Nick Joseph Olanka, a fresh graduate of the University of the Philippines who made "Ang Huling Araw ng Linggo," said he sought the help

CINEMALAYA/A2-2



FELEO, right, and Jardin say the changes were advantageous to the participants.

RODEL ROTONI

needed "in consideration of the changes" of the participants.

The changes were the result of discussions that the Cinemalaya organization committee (Orgcom) had with last year's participants, said Jardin during the festival launch at the CCP lobby last week.

"One of the main revisions states that anyone who has not directed more than three films is free to join the festival," noted competition director Laurice Guillen-Feleo.

Evaluation

Feleo cited the case of director Ron Bryant whose film, "Baryoke," was one of last year's entries and whose "Rotonda" is one of the eight full-length feature films in this year's event.

The festival opens July 17 and ends July 23.

"We always try to improve," said

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BRAND CINEPLEX 1 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN - 2 2 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN - 2 3 SUPERMAN RETURNS 4 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN - 2 PREMIERE PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN - 2 CINEMA 2000 Cinema 2000 Wal-Mart Makati Wal-Mart Center, Cebu Road, Makati City Tel: 816-4214 / 816-4216 1 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN - 2 2 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN - 2 3 I WANNA BE HAPPY 4 SUPERMAN RETURNS starmall (Mandaluyong) tel: 7268150 3 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN - 2 4 SUPERMAN RETURNS 5 I WANNA BE HAPPY metropolis (Alabang) tel: 854288, 5432894 1 BATAS MILITAR 2 I WANNA BE HAPPY 3 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN - 2 4 SUPERMAN RETURNS THEATRES 1 SUPERMAN RETURNS 2 I WANNA BE HAPPY 3 THE FAST & THE FURIOUS - 3 PACIFIC MALL CINEMAGIC 1 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN - 2 2 SUPERMAN RETURNS 3 RESERVED 4 RESERVED Filinvest (Muntinlupa) tel: 850-3571 or 72 1 INITIAL - D 2 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN - 2 3 SUPERMAN RETURNS 4 SUPERMAN RETURNS 5 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN - 2 6 SUPERMAN RETURNS 7 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN - 2 8 I WANNA BE HAPPY 9 BATAS MILITAR 10 SEE NO EVIL Blue Wave 1 RESERVED 2 SUPERMAN RETURNS 3 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN - 2 4 INITIAL - D SUPER CINERAMA 1 SUPERMAN RETURNS 2 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN - 2 3 I WANNA BE HAPPY 4 BATAS MILITAR MARQUEE 1 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN - 2 2 SUPERMAN RETURNS 3 SEE NO EVIL 4 RESERVED	Masagana CINEMA (Pasig) tel: 833-3290 / 833-3274 1 I WANNA BE HAPPY 2 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN - 2 3 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN - 2 Center Mall Cinema (Bogus Center Mall, Magway Avenue, Bogus City) tel: (074) 4448346 1 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN - 2 2 SUPERMAN RETURNS Jade Cinema (Angeles City) tel: (045) 887-5001 to 03 1 I WANNA BE HAPPY 2 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN - 2 3 SUPERMAN RETURNS 4 BATAS MILITAR Centre Plaza Cinema (Balanga, Bataan) tel: (047) 237-7007 1 SUPERMAN RETURNS 2 GARFIELD - 2 WALMART CINEMAS (Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City, Rodriguez Jr. Ave. 11, Eastwood City) tel: 887-6700 or 72 1 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN - 2 2 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN - 2 3 SUPERMAN RETURNS 4 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN - 2 Cinema 2000 Wal-Mart (Cebu) tel: (049) 545-7383 1 I WANNA BE HAPPY 2 SUPERMAN RETURNS 3 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN - 2 4 RESERVED Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall (Biliran) tel: (049) 4111146 1 I WANNA BE HAPPY 2 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN - 2 3 SUPERMAN RETURNS 4 SEE NO EVIL Cinema 2000 Cinemagix (Urdaneta) tel: (075) 566-6773 1 SUPERMAN RETURNS 2 LAKE HOUSE 3 THE FAST & THE FURIOUS - 3 Cinema 2000 Metrotown (Tarlac) tel: (045) 982-7729 1 AMERICAN HAUNTING 2 TAKE THE LEAD 3 THE FAST & THE FURIOUS - 3 4 SUPERMAN RETURNS Cinema 2000 Wal-Mart (Pampanga) tel: (044) 756-2120 1 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN - 2 2 THE FAST & THE FURIOUS - 3 3 SUPERMAN RETURNS Cinema 2000 Wal-Mart (Gapan) tel: (044) 4657736 1 SUPERMAN RETURNS 2 THE FAST & THE FURIOUS - 3 Lianas Cinema (Pasig) tel: 640-4748 1 SEE NO EVIL Lianas Cinema (Alabang) tel: 850-1276 1 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN - 2 2 SEE NO EVIL 3 PLEASE CALL 4 PLEASE CALL Lianas MovieCity (Cebu) tel: (049) 545-7322 1 SUPERMAN RETURNS 2 PLEASE CALL 3 I WANNA BE HAPPY 4 SEE NO EVIL Fiesta World Mall (Lipa) tel: (043) 190-1700 1 LAKE HOUSE 2 SUPERMAN RETURNS 3 I WANNA BE HAPPY 4 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN - 2 Berna Cinema (Bacarran) tel: 879-2030 / 879-2029 1 SCARY MOVIE - 4 2 PLEASE CALL
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2 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN 11:30, 2:55, 6:20, 9:40 G
3 SUPERMAN RETURNS G
4 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN 12:10, 3:40, 10:30 G

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in alphabetical order
JASON ABALOS
TERENCE BAYLON
DION IGNACIO
MICHELLE MADRIGAL
& ALWIN UYTINGCO

I WANNA BE HAPPY

You can choose your friends but not your relatives

written and directed by JOSE JAVIER REYES
a SEIKO Films Presentation

A2-2 ENTERTAINMENT

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 2006

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

From page A2-1

of Cinemalaya to get Boots Anson-Roa, Johnny Delgado, Jennifer Sevilla and Baron Giesler to appear in his film.

Olanika said "Linggo"—about life-changing circumstances that happen to seven people in the same week—took only eight shooting days.

Crowd control
Bryant's "Rotonda" was shot in just six days. "The only problem we had, since we're filming in Pasay Rotonda was crowd control," he recounted. "Rotonda," a story on "human connectivity" stars Mark Gil, Epy Quizon, Emilio Garcia, Celso Ad Castillo and Meryll Soriano, last year's Cinemalaya best actress for Alfred Aloy-sium's "Room Boy."

(Tickets to the film festival are priced at P100, P50 for students and senior citizens. Festival passes (P750) and day passes (P200 for five movies) are also available.)

SEE NO EVIL
CAN YOU STARE EVIL IN THE EYE?
WRESTLING SUPERSTAR KANE
The Chain. And Evil Kane.
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ARANETA CENTER

Gateway Cinemall Farmers Plaza

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I WANNA BE HAPPY 12:20 / 2:40 / 5:00 / 7:20 / 9:40	BATAS MILITAR 12:30 / 2:45 / 5:00 / 7:15 / 9:15	SUPERMAN RETURNS 12:30 / 3:30 / 6:30 / 9:30
THE FAST & THE FURIOUS 3 12:20 / 2:40 / 5:00	THE LAKE HOUSE 7:20 / 9:30	LOVE WRECKED 2:10 / 4:40 / 7:10 / 9:40

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST
12:35 / 1:10 / 3:35 / 4:10 / 6:35 / 7:10 / 9:35 / 10:10

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN:
12:00 / 3:00 / 6:00 / 9:00

Animall 5

1 I WANNA BE HAPPY 12:10 / 3:10 / 6:10 / 9:10	2 SUPERMAN RETURNS 12:20 / 3:10 / 6:00 / 9:50	3 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: 12:00 / 3:00 / 6:00 / 9:00
4 BATAS MILITAR 12:05 / 2:00 / 4:15 / 6:30 / 8:45	5 SEE NO EVIL 1:10 / 3:00 / 4:50 / 6:40 / 8:30	

For ticket inquiries, please call TicketNet at 911-5555 or log on to www.ticketnet.com.ph

Watch Capt. Jack's larger-than-life adventures today at Gateway Cineplex 10 with the largest curved screen 70 ft. wide & 30 ft. high

MTRCB RATING: G ALL AGES ADMITTED
Content: Film contains some scary images.

OPENS JULY 19!

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PAUL GIAMATTI RYCE DALLAS HOWARD
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LADY IN THE WATER
PAUL GIAMATTI RYCE DALLAS HOWARD
JAMES NEWTON HOWARD
JEFFREY M. HUNTER
CHRISTOPHER YOUNG
www.ladyinthewater.com



REMEMBER LOUIE HEREDIA?
Whatever happened to Louie Heredia? He makes a guest appearance on "MYX Live!" hosted by Jett Pangan, left, at 9 tonight on the music channel MYX. Louie, right was last seen in "Rewind," the reunion concert of the biggest 1980s artists, and "Silver," the 25th Anniversary Concert in honor of composer Vehnee Saturno.

MTRCB PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.
The Funny Girl from *She's the Man* is back in another Hilarious Romantic Comedy

AMANDA BYNES

To get the guy of her dreams,
One girl is really going overboard.

LOVE WRECKED

NOW SHOWING

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2. To join the promo, just text MPIRATE RAFFLE CODE NAME/ADDRESS/AGE to 29767 for Globe, Touch Mobile, Smart, Addict Mobile, Talk n' Text, & Sun Cellular subscribers. P2.50 will be charged per text message sent. Example: MPIRATE A1234/John Reyes/234 Ruby St. Makati City/30
3. For succeeding entries, just type MPIRATE Raffle Code Example: MPIRATE B5678
4. M&M's® packs with the Fun and Fortune stickers must be kept and shall be presented for verification purposes in order to claim the prize.
5. Promo will run from June 15-August 31, 2006.
6. Prizes include: 1 unit Volvo S40, 10 units Sony Ericsson W810i Walkman Phones & 30 units Apple Video iPods.
7. Draws will be held on July 3, July 17, July 31, August 14, August 28, 2006. Grand draw will be on Sept. 8, 2006.
8. All entries are cumulative. Non-winning entries will qualify for the succeeding draws. The more entries sent, the more chances of winning.
9. Cut-off dates for entries Sunday, 11:59pm prior to the draw date. For the Grand Draw, cut-off date will be on July 31, 2006 at 11:59pm.
10. Draws will be held at the Information Gateway office in the presence of a representative from BFAD, Information Gateway and Master Foods Philippines, Inc.
11. Winners will receive a call with accompanying instructions on how to claim their prize. They must be prepared to surrender the M&M's® chocolate wrapper with the winning raffle code. Damaged, altered and/or tampered stickers, as well as wrappers with no promo stickers and vice versa will be disqualified and rendered invalid.
12. Verification procedures will be enforced to ensure validity and authenticity of the promo sticker and wrapper. Representatives from BFAD and Master Foods Philippines, Inc. will conduct the verification procedures.
13. Verified winners will then be eligible to claim their prize.
14. Prizes are non-transferable and not convertible to cash.
15. All prizes are tax paid.
16. Employees of Master Foods Philippines, Inc., all their agencies, suppliers, partners and sponsors, including their relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity or affinity are disqualified from joining the promotion.

WALT DISNEY PICTURES PRESENTS
PIRATES of the CARIBBEAN
DEAD MAN'S CHEST
IN THEATERS JULY 2006

VOLVO

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ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS MOVIE GUIDE



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1 SUPERMAN RETURNS • THX	6 UNITED 93
2 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN 2	7 BATAS MILITAR
3 LOVE WRECKED	8 SEE NO EVIL
4 INITIAL D	9 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN 2
5 BE HAPPY	10 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN 2

ERMITA 536-7809 to 12

1 SUPERMAN RETURNS	5 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN 2
2 BE HAPPY	6 SEE NO EVIL
3 INITIAL D	PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN 2
4 BATAS MILITAR	7 LOVE WRECKED

METRO EAST 682-8193 • 682-8199

1 SUPERMAN RETURNS	5 LOVE WRECKED
2 INITIAL D	6 SEE NO EVIL
3 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN 2	7 BE HAPPY
4 BATAS MILITAR	8 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN 2

NOVALICHES 435-3741 • 435-3728

1 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN 2	4 BE HAPPY
2 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN 2	5 SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 BATAS MILITAR	6 INITIAL D

CITISQUARE MALABON 288-2576

1 SUPERMAN RETURNS	1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN 2	2 BE HAPPY
3 RESERVE	3 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN 2
4 RESERVE	4 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN 2

PIONEER 637-5378

1 SUPERMAN RETURNS	1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 BE HAPPY	2 BE HAPPY
3 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN 2	3 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN 2
4 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN 2	4 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN 2



WWE Superstar KANE is the new name in TERROR
"SEE NO EVIL"

Kane plays the Henchman from Hell Jacob Goodnight. With a rusty steel plate screwed into his skull and razor-sharp fingernails that pluck out his victim's eyes, Jacob is a reclusive psychopath who's up in the long-abandoned and rotting Blackwell Hotel. Eight juvenile delinquents then show up at the run-down hotel for community service duty along with the cop who put a bullet in Jacob's head for four years ago. Jacob hunts them down using a meat hook and chain through a maze of broken-down hallways and rooms. When one of their own is kidnapped by Jacob and her fate uncertain, the remaining delinquents must fight this indestructible force of nature with a violent score to settle.

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MTRCB Rating: R-18

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1 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN 2	1 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN 2
2 SEE NO EVIL	2 BE HAPPY
3 SUPERMAN RETURNS	3 THE NUN
4 BE HAPPY	4 SUPERMAN RETURNS

DASMARINAS 045-622125

1 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN 2	1 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN 2
2 BE HAPPY	2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 BATAS MILITAR	3 BATAS MILITAR
4 SUPERMAN RETURNS	4 BE HAPPY

IMUS 045-777173

1 SUPERMAN RETURNS	1 SUPERMAN RETURNS
2 BE HAPPY	2 BE HAPPY
3 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN 2	3 BATAS MILITAR
4 BATAS MILITAR	4 TAKE THE LEAD
5 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN 2	5 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN 2
	6 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN 2

BACOLOD 034-411101

1 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN 2	1 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN 2
2 SUPERMAN RETURNS	2 LOVE WRECKED
3 SEE NO EVIL	3 SEE NO EVIL
4 THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS 3	4 SUPERMAN RETURNS
5 PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN 2	
6 THE NUN	

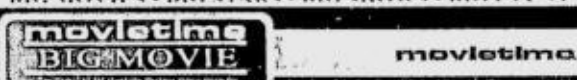
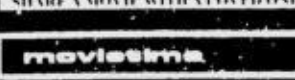


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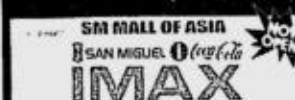


Walt Disney Pictures, in association with Jerry Bruckheimer Films, reunite Johnny Depp, Orlando Bloom and Keira Knightley in another tale of further adventures of Capt. Jack Sparrow in **PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST**. Captain Jack Sparrow discovers that he has a blood debt to Captain Davey Jones of the ghostly Flying Dutchman. As time runs out, Jack finds a way to get out of his debt or he'll be doomed to eternal servitude in the afterlife.

NOW SHOWING at



Discovered by



SUPERMAN RETURNS
9:00 12:00 3:00 6:00 9:00 12:00PM
PREMIERE CINEMA
PIRATES OF CARIBBEAN
DIRECTOR'S CLUB
PIRATES OF CARIBBEAN
CENTERSTAGE
RESERVED

SUPERMAN RETURNS
PIRATES OF CARIBBEAN
LOVEWRECKED
SCARY MOVIE 4
INITIAL D
I WANNA BE HAPPY

PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN
CINEMA 1
PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN
CINEMA 2
PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN

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INITIAL D
LOVEWRECKED
PIRATES OF CARIBBEAN
I WANNA BE HAPPY
BATAS MILITAR
SUPERMAN RETURNS
PIRATES OF CARIBBEAN

PIRATES OF THE CARRIBEAN
I WANNA BE HAPPY
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SUPERMAN RETURNS

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I WANNA BE HAPPY

PIRATES OF CARIBBEAN
SUPERMAN RETURNS
INITIAL D
I WANNA BE HAPPY

MOVIEWORLD FRESH NEW MOVIES

NOW SHOWING

BATAS MILITAR
Mark Lapid is a dedicated army captain who discovers as anomaly within the Military that eventually gave justice to the mysterious death of his younger brother Markyard Lapid. Also stars Tanya Garcia and Maynard Fernandez.

I WANNA BE HAPPY
Relax with this hilarious comedy featuring an all-star cast led Mr. Eddie Garcia and Ms. Gloria Romero. A must-see for the whole family



PIRATES OF CARIBBEAN
I WANNA BE HAPPY
SUPERMAN RETURNS
PIRATES OF CARIBBEAN

PIRATES OF CARIBBEAN
I WANNA BE HAPPY
FAST AND FURIOUS 3
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FAST AND FURIOUS 3
SUPERMAN RETURNS

PIRATES OF CARIBBEAN
SUPERMAN RETURNS
FAST AND FURIOUS 3
PIRATES OF CARIBBEAN

EVENT CALENDAR

Fall in Love

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A24

Local stars' woes

ENTERTAINERS IN the United States are up in arms against paparazzi, whose gung-ho, bullying tactics have endangered some stars' safety, and even their lives.

VIEWFINDER



Nestor U. Torre

In the Philippines, stars are generally spared such indignities and dangers. But they have their own share of woes that make their lives miserable in different ways.

Local show biz luminaries have to contend with the drastic loss of their privacy. Fans here think stars owe their popularity to their patronage, so they feel that they can meddle in their idols' private lives.

Unless luminaries set limits early on, fans believe that they "own" the artists they've helped achieve stardom.

This runs directly counter to show biz practice in the west, where stars feel that the only thing they owe their fans is "a good performance."

Local fans' excessively personal view of their relationship with their

WHY ARE/A2-5

ROUNDUP



Record breaker

LOS ANGELES—Johnny Depp's boozy, woozy buccaneer Jack Sparrow has plundered the US and Canadian box office, with "Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest" taking in a record \$132 million in its first three days.

Disney's swash buckling sequel sailed past the previous all-time best debut, 2002's "Spider-Man," which took in \$114.8 million in its first weekend.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at US and Canadian theaters, according to Exhibitor Relations, official track

- 1) "Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest" \$132M;
- 2) "Superman Returns" \$21.85M;
- 3) "The Devil Wears Prada" \$15.6M;
- 4) "Click" \$12M;
- 5) "Cars" \$10.3M;
- 6) "Nacho Libre" \$3.3M;
- 7) "The Lake House" \$2.8M;
- 8) "The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift" \$2.5M;
- 9) "Waist Deep" \$1.9M;
- 10) "The Break-Up" \$1.6M.

Why are there so many young has-beens?

From page A2-4

idols is exacerbated by the show biz press and entertainment talk shows on TV, which love to pit stars against each other, unearth scandals and generally focus on the negative side of celebrities' private lives.

Like the fans, show biz talk show reporters believe that stars' scandalous conduct, whether real or concocted, is grist for the entertainment mills, and luminaries have to take the bad with the good in terms of media coverage, because they need the "publicity."

Stars here are also prey to their relatives' and handlers' exploitative behavior. These hangers-on believe that, since popular artists earn a lot of money, they have the obligation to support their coterie of instant "dependents."

Ironically, show biz no longer pays as much as it used to, so many stars are having a hard time making ends meet. But they have to sustain the illusion of popularity and wealth, so their relatives' demands are all the more stress-inducing.

These days, stars also have to worry about the new "Kleenex" mentality when it comes to careers.

In the past, producers used to discover talents who could have long and profitable careers. At present, however, the entertainment scene is so problematic, and fans' tastes have become so fickle, that new stars are launched for temporary rather than

permanent popularity. That's why we see so many new stars launched with a great deal of hype who are kept very busy for some months and make a lot of money—only to fade away after just a year of manipulated popularity.

As a result, the entertainment world is littered with many young has-beens—and there's nothing more tragic than so much youthful promise being cavalierly used and quickly discarded—like tissue paper.

Mensa test

MENSA Philippines is inviting all those interested to join the ranks of Mensa members worldwide to take its qualifying test on Sept. 10, anytime from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Private Room, 6/F Oakwood, Glorietta 4, Makati. Scoring within the top two percent of the test is the only requirement for joining Mensa.

Of the type known as "abstract reasoning," the Mensa test is culture-fair and does not test for math or language skills. Providing a forum for intellectual exchange, Mensa membership currently numbers 100,000 in over 80 countries worldwide. Call 449-4612.

CCP dance show

TOGETHER with Columbia International, Anak TV will host all interested public school teachers and their families and pupils at the 3 p.m. matinee on July 9 of the "Unpublished Dances of the

Philippines" performance by Ramon Obusan's dance company at the CCP. The program will enable audiences to understand Philippine ritual roots and witness indigenous practices of the Ilocos, Cordillera, Muslim and Ivatan communities. Dance

and PE teachers should benefit greatly from the experience. For tickets courtesy of Columbia's, call Aida Pasion at 242-1929 or 0918-9303898.

An Action Packed Video

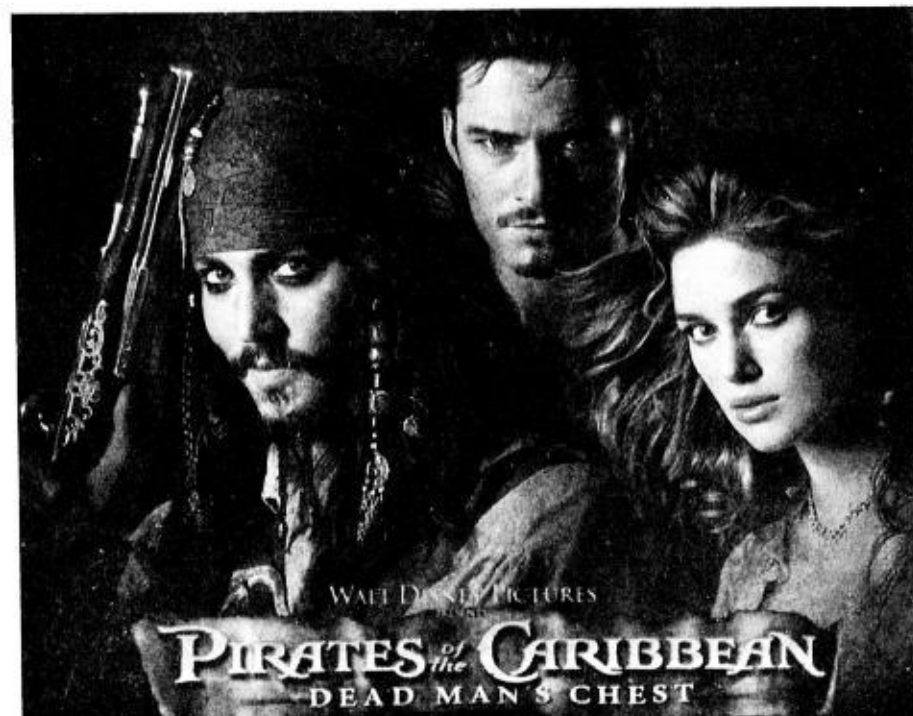
JOSH HARTNETT MORGAN FREEMAN BEN KINGSLEY
LUCY LIU STANLEY TUCCI AND BRUCE WILLIS



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AYALA MALLS CINEMAS' PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST'S SCREENING SCHEDULES FOR JULY 12

GLORIETTA 4

Cinema 1* - 2:00 PM, 5:15, 8:30
Cinema 3* - 12:45 PM, 4:00, 7:15, 10:30
Cinema 6 - 11:45 AM, 3:00, 6:15, 9:30

GREENBELT 3

Cinema 1* - 2:15 PM, 5:30, 8:45
Cinema 2* - 1:35 PM, 4:50, 8:10
Cinema 5* - 12:30 PM, 3:45, 7:00

GLORIETTA 1

Cinema 1 - 10:40 AM, 1:40 PM, 4:40, 7:40
Cinema 2 - 12:40 PM, 3:40, 6:40, 9:40

GREENBELT 1

Cinema 2 - 11:40 AM, 2:40 PM, 5:40, 8:40

MTRCB Rating: General Audience (All Ages Admitted)
Caution: Film contains some scary scenes

ALABANG TOWN CENTER

Cinema 1 (THX) - 12:30 PM, 3:40, 6:50, 10:00
Cinema 2 - 12:00 PM, 3:10 PM, 6:20, 9:30
Cinema 3 - 1:00 PM, 4:10, 7:20, 10:30

MARKET! MARKET!

Cinema 1 - 12:00 PM, 3:10 PM, 6:20, 9:30
Cinema 4 - 11:30 AM, 2:40, 5:50, 9:00

AYALA CENTER CEBU

Cinema 1 - 12:00 PM, 2:45, 5:50, 9:15
Cinema 2 - 12:30 PM, 3:15, 6:20, 9:45

* THX & Guaranteed Seat Cinema

** Digital Sound & Guaranteed Seat Cinema

Screening schedules are subject to change without prior notice
For verification, pls. call 725-7777

glorietta

GREENBELT

ALABANG
TOWN
CENTER

AYALA CENTER
CEBU

MARKET!
MARKET!

Ayala Malls
Cebu

AT THE CINEMAS

TFC

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More schedules may change without prior notice. For verification, please call 725-7777

G1 GLORIETTA 1	1 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST	2 SUPERMAN RETURNS	3 I WANNA BE HAPPY	4 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST
G4 GLORIETTA 4	1 SUPERMAN RETURNS	2 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST	3 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST	4 INITIAL D
	4 INITIAL D	5 UNITED 93	6 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST	7 LOVEWRECKED
GB1 GREENBELT 1	1 SUPERMAN RETURNS	2 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST		
GB3 GREENBELT 3	1 SUPERMAN RETURNS GUARANTEED SEATS	2 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST GUARANTEED SEATS		
	3 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST GUARANTEED SEATS	4 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST GUARANTEED SEATS	5 LOVEWRECKED GUARANTEED SEATS	
ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER	1 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST	2 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST		
	3 SUPERMAN RETURNS	4 LOVEWRECKED	5 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST	
ACC AYALA CENTER CEBU	1 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST	2 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST	3 SUPERMAN RETURNS	4 SEE NO EVIL
M2 MARKET! MARKET!	1 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST	2 I WANNA BE HAPPY		
	3 INITIAL D	4 SUPERMAN RETURNS	5 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST	

At the Activity Center

Customer Service text hotline: 0917 6096900

Customer Service Numbers:

Glorietta - 752 7272 from 10am to 8pm

Greenbelt - 752 4853 from 11am to 12pm

Alabang Town Center - 842 2782 from 10am to 8pm

Ayala Center Cebu - (032) 231 5342 loc 324

Market! Market! - 886 7519

GLORIETTA

Laguna Expo
July 10 to 16

Blim's Fine Furniture Exhibit
July 3 to 21, 2006

AYALA CENTER
CEBU

Hipness in the Flesh Category Sale Event
July 14, 2006

MARKET! MARKET!

Beauty, Health & Fitness Fair for Mom
July 13 to 15, 2006

Jazz Nights at GB 2
July 12, 19 & 26, 2006

JED MADELA in concert
July 14 & 15 - 8PM

For inquiries, pls. call Ticketworld - 8915610 or 7504180

Onstage

Ayala MUSEUM

Ode To The Pasig River
June 27 to August 27, 2006

For inquiries, please call 757-7117 to 21 loc 29 or visit www.ayalamuseum.org

JOHNNY DEPP ORLANDO BLOOM KEIRA KNIGHTLEY

Yo-Ho!
A Weekend of Pirate Escapades!

"X" marks the spot at the
Glorietta 4 Cinema Lobby
on **July 15 - 16, 2006**
Saturday & Sunday
from **12 nn - 8 pm**

Wear your Best Pirate Costume
and join super fun activities
for a chance to win exciting prizes!

SEE YOU THERE!!!

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST
OPENS JULY 12

Yo-Ho!
A Weekend of Pirate Escapades!

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Saturday & Sunday
from **12 nn - 8 pm**

Wear your Best Pirate Costume
and join super fun activities
for a chance to win exciting prizes!

SEE YOU THERE!!!

AyalaMalls

The Fab Ayala Malls welcome the Fab 5

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Activity Center
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GREENBELT
Greenbelt 3 Park
July 20 - 7pm
Customer Service Hotline: 757-4853

ALABANG TOWN CENTER
Activity Center
July 22 - 10am
Customer Service Hotline: 842-2782, 772-1860

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AYALA MUSEUM
Ode To The Pasig River
June 27 to August 27, 2006
For inquiries, please call 757-7117 to 21 loc 29 or visit www.ayalamuseum.org

www.ayalamalls.com.ph

SHANG CINEPLEX

- 1 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN 2
MTRCB GP
1:40, 4:50, 8:00
- 2 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN 2
MTRCB GP
2:40, 5:50, 9:00
- 3 SUPERMAN RETURNS
MTRCB GP
12:45, 3:50, 6:55, 10:00
- 4 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN 2
MTRCB GP
12:40, 3:50, 7:00, 10:10

PREMIERE THEATRE PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN 2
12:00, 3:10, 6:20, 9:30
MTRCB GP

Movies and schedules are subject to change without prior notice

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See posters and flyers for details. For DTI-NGR Permit No. A3-0536 series of 2006

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LOVEWRECKED
PG13

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN 2
G

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN 2
G

SUPERMAN RETURNS
G

SUPERMAN RETURNS
G

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN 2
G

Movies and screening schedules subject to change without prior notice. For verification call 898-1440/41

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GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER, ORTIGAS AVENUE, GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA

THEATRE MALL

NOW SHOWING

- 1 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN 2
12:15, 3:10, 6:05
9:00 GP
- 2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
12:10, 3:20, 6:30
9:40 GP

PROMENADE

...a diversion for all

NOW SHOWING

- 3 SUPERMAN RETURNS
11:00, 2:10, 5:20
8:30 GP
- 4 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN 2
11:10, 2:05, 5:00
7:55, 10:50 GP
- 5 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN 2
10:30, 1:25, 4:20
7:15, 10:10 GP

TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE. FOR CINEMA INQUIRIES, CALL: 722-4496

MUSIC MUSEUM M

TEVERINO

PROMENADE GREENHILLS

JULY 22, 2006 RAZORBACK BAND 9:00PM

JULY 29, 2006 PILITA C. & ELIZABETH R. 8:30PM

EVERY MONDAY DANCE NIGHT 7:00PM

EVERY WEDNESDAY CERRUDO CLASSICO 8:00PM

JULY 14, 2006 FREEVERSE 9:00PM

FOR INQUIRIES PLS. CALL 722-4532 LOC 116

FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION, PLS. CALL: 721-6726 OR 721-0635

I Wanna Be Happy

Stars Gloria Romero, Eddie Garcia, Cherry Pie Picache, Diana Zubiri, Joey Marquez
Directed by Jose Javier Reyes

SEIKO Films drumbeaters describe this movie, graded B by the Cinema Evaluation Board, as a "compact family comedy ... [that] everyone can relate to." A repressed housewife (Romero) leaves her domineering husband (Garcia) on the eve of their 50th anniversary—leaving their grown-up children and grandchildren confused and exasperated. Director Reyes volunteers that this movie is based on his 1990s teleplay titled "Love Daddy," topbilled by Dolphy and Charito Solis and directed by Peque Gallaga. "I just expanded the script and added new characters," Reyes relates. "The elderly couple is partly inspired by my parents. In a marriage, two people must grow together. [Otherwise] the marriage ends."

Initial D

Stars Jay Chou, Edison Chen, Anne Suzuki

OPENING TODAY



INITIAL D

ki, Anthony Wong

Directed by Andrew Lau and Alan Mak
Based on Shuichi Shigeno's immensely popular race-car manga (Japanese comic book), the Hong Kong film version beat Darth Vader, Mr. and Mrs. Smith and Batman at the tills last year. It grossed HK\$37.86 million, becoming one of only two certified moneymakers in Hong Kong in 2005 (the other was Andy Lau's "Wait Till You're Old-er").

Directed by the same scriptwriting team behind "Infernal Affairs," this "action-packed mellow drama" chronicles the adventures of gas station attendant-tofu delivery boy Takumi Fujiwara (Chou) who is also an aspiring race-car daredevil. Andrew Sun of the Hollywood Reporter hails it as a "slick summer vehicle." Stina Chyn of Film Threat points out that the visuals "magnify the intensity of racing scenes." V.A. Musetto of the New York Post thinks "the racing scenes are well done; unfortunately, they're too often interrupted by a cliché-filled story about one-note characters."

Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest

Stars Johnny Depp, Orlando Bloom, Keira Knightley, Bill Nighy

Directed by Gore Verbinski

This sequel serves as "prelude" to Part Three, which will complete the "Pirates" trilogy by May next year. The rowdy Captain Jack Sparrow (Depp) must pay a blood debt

to Davey Jones of the Flying Dutchman legend—or risk eternal damnation. His shenanigans also disrupt the wedding plans of Will Turner (Bloom) and Elizabeth Swann (Knightley). Critical appraisal is mixed. Ty Burr of the Boston Globe complains: "All that's missing is a plot, amusing dialogue, comic timing and a reason to exist. Presumably these will come in the third installment." Kyle Smith of the New York Post concurs: "The chest is overfilled with exposition and physical comedy, without a doubt's worth of the scary suspense and brilliant comedy [of the original]." Kirk Honeycutt of the Hollywood Reporter is impressed: "This production is a vast, expensive, sprawling affair that never feels out of control, thanks to the assured direction."

Batas Militar

Stars Mark Lapid, Tanya Garcia, Mark Anthony Fernandez, Maynard Lapid

Directed by Jess Lapid Jr.

Produced by the Pampanga Governor Mark Lapid's compa-

Pauleen Luna Jason Iwa JC de Vera and Boots Anson-Roa
Abalos Moto Carlos Franzen Ketchup Glaiza Katarina
Eusebio de Castro Perez



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Premiere night on JULY 18, 7pm at SM Megamall Cinema 10

Catch the stars of White Lady at the following malls:
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Philip Cu-Unjin, PHILIPPINE STAR 6/10

"Exuberant crowd pleaser!"

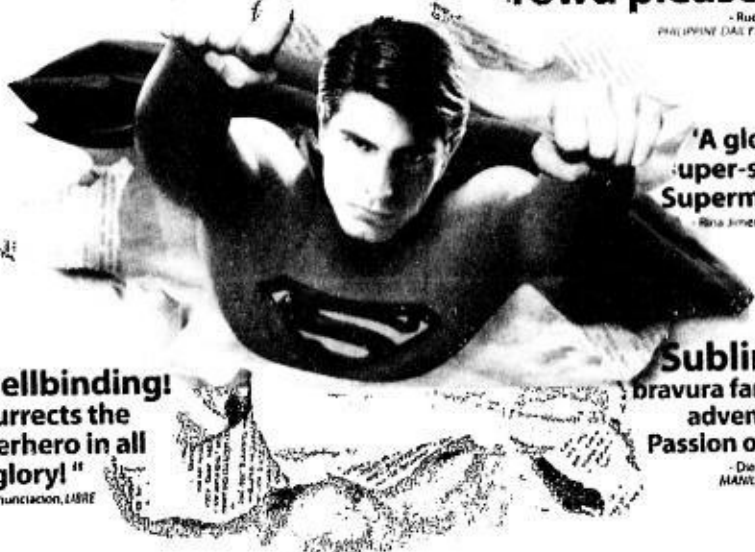
Ruel de Vera, PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

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Rina Jimenez David, PDI

"Spellbinding! Resurrects the superhero in all his glory!"

Vives Anuncacion, LARRE



SUPERMAN RETURNS

WUPEA REIS, PHILIPPINE STAR

WUPEA REIS, PHILIPPINE STAR

WUPEA REIS, PHILIPPINE STAR

GRAND OPENING TODAY!

MTRCB RATING G ALL AGES ADMITTED

Caution: Film contains some scary scenes.

JOHNNY DEPP ORLANDO BLOOM KEIRA KNIGHTLEY



Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures



ny MTL Films, this action flick tackles fraternal loyalty and military corruption. After the puzzling death of his younger brother (Maynard), an army captain (Mark) embarks on a quest—not just to solve the mystery but to expose the anomalies of military men, led by the father of his girlfriend (Garcia). This slugfest marks the directorial debut of Mark's uncle, Jess Lapid Jr., who once worked as fight instructor/director in the movies of Edu Manzano and Cesar Montano. He guided Angel Locsin in her underwater scenes on the TV show "Darna." The director is also a scuba-diving instructor, that's why. He insists, "We didn't cheat in the action scenes—especially in Mark's fight scenes."

IN THIS ISSUE
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hand in Masinloc
supply deal /B8

BUSINESS

Editor Raul O. Marcelo • Assistant Editor Corrie S. Narisma

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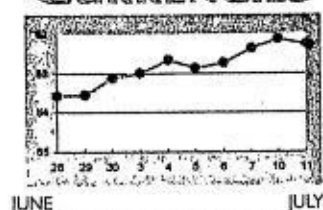
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E-mail: business@inquirer.com.ph



Exports surged 17.3% to \$3.88B in May

INDICATORS CURRENCIES



PESO-DOLLAR RATE

P 52.25 = \$1

As of 5 p.m., July 11, 2006

Shares close higher

SHARE PRICES CLOSED 0.19-PERCENT higher yesterday after a sluggish session, recovering some of the ground lost Monday as investors looked for select bargains, dealers said.

They said that after a lackluster performance on Wall Street overnight, there was no

SHARES/B2

Share of electronics down to 59% of total earnings

By Michelle V. Remo

THE COUNTRY'S EXPORTS MAINTAINED A DOUBLE-digit growth in May, rising 17.3 percent to \$3.88 billion from a year ago, as global demand for electronics remained robust.

This brought total exports for the first six months of the year to \$18.69 billion, or 16-percent higher than the previous year's level.

"The 16-percent growth in January to May made it clear that the 8-percent export growth target for the full year would already be easily surpassed," Dennis Arroyo, director for policy and planning at the Neda, said.

The National Economic and De-

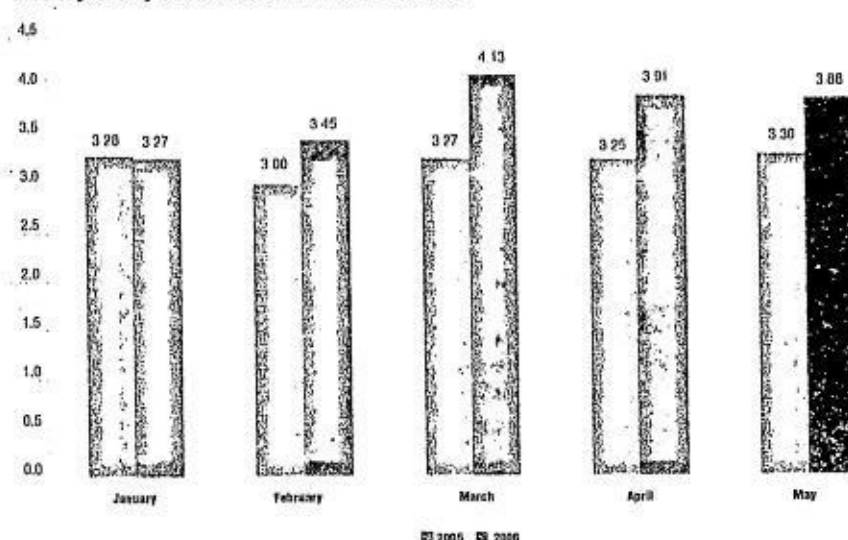
velopment Authority (Neda) said Filipino exporters continued to benefit from the increasing demand for laptops, cellular phones, digital cameras and other electronic items that are the Philippines' major export products.

Documents from the National Statistics Office (NSO), an attached agency of the Neda, showed that electronics exports reached

EXPORTS/B2

TOTAL EXPORTS

January to May 2005 & 2006, in billion US dollars



DOF sacks corruption probers

THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE HAS trimmed down the number of its personnel tasked with conducting lifestyle checks on revenue collectors in an effort to revive the integrity of the Revenue Integrity Protection Service (RIPS) program, which faces allegations of extortion activities.

In a memorandum, Finance Undersecretary Gaudencio Mendoza Jr. informed employees and officials of the Bureau of Inter-

nal Revenue and of Customs that the list of authorized RIPS investigators had been reduced to only 17 from an original 28.

RIPS is the unit of the DOF tasked with conducting lifestyle checks on employees and officials of the BIR and the BOC who are suspected of corruption.

The move to trim down the number of investigative personnel of the DOF followed the

DOF/B2

MetroHome Rate Protect Plus offers superior benefits to borrowers

HOUSING loan borrowers, rejoice! Metrobank, the country's leading bank in resources offers a unique housing loan package that offers even better interest rate protection plus repricing flexibility with the MetroHome Rate Protect Plus.

MetroHome Rate Protect Plus provides a guaranteed maximum interest of 11.5% p.a. on housing loans with terms of 10 years or more to protect borrowers from sudden rate increases that always upset the household budget. This rate cap enhances a loan package that already offers one of the lowest interest rates in the market today.

Metrobank consumer lending group head Rowena R. Oliveros said, "The MetroHome Rate Protect Plus offers borrowers a distinct advantage over the usual longer term,

fixed pricing of other banks. They can take advantage of market rates - as low as 9% p.a. during the first five years of the loan. Plus, the interest rate is guaranteed not to exceed 11.5% p.a. for 10 years."

Unlike similar programs that offer fixed interest rates, MetroHome Rate Protect Plus is unique because it allows borrowers the flexibility of annual repricing during the first five years of the loan with a rate cap guarantee. "Borrowers have the opportunity of paying less interest at the time when the outstanding balance is still high and therefore interest payments are heavier," explains Oliveros.

On the 6th to the 10th year, the loan carries a fixed rate of 11.5% p.a. "By fixing the interest

rate on the 6th year onwards, borrowers are spared the surprises of rate surges when they are nearing repayment," adds Oliveros.

MetroHome Rate Protect Plus may be used to purchase a residential lot, a house and lot, townhouse or condominium; or to reimburse expenses incurred for property purchased in cash. It may also be used to refinance an existing home loan. MetroHome Rate Protect Plus is available only for housing loans with terms of ten years or more.

For more details on MetroHome Rate Protect Plus, please contact the Metrobank Home Financing Division at 898-8534, or visit any Metrobank branch. You may also log on to www.metrobank.com.ph.

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Subic gets \$7.5M in investments

Innove's \$6-M project to help former US base a cybercity

By Ronnel w. domingo

THE SUBIC METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY has approved for registration 12 projects that will bring into the freeport \$7.5 million in investments and create 203 jobs.

SBMA administrator Armand C. Arreza said the biggest project was the \$6.3-million project of Globe Telecom subsidiary Innove Communications.

Innove will provide an end-to-end telecommunications solutions and a complete range of telecommunications services to business and residential customers in Subic Freeport.

"Innove Communications intends to help the SBMA realize its vision to develop a world class ICT infrastructure that will make the Subic Bay Freeport a cybercity and consequently, make it more attractive to investors engaged in related fields," Arreza said.

Also, Arreza said that of the total investments committed, 15 percent or \$1.1 million was in the form of foreign direct investment.

Also approved was Taiwanese firm Taiming International Trading Inc.'s export trading and logistics warehousing business worth \$560,000.

The other projects approved were Korean firms' Sky English Fluency Academy Inc. worth \$140,000 and Freeport STS' language institute worth \$70,000.

Sapphire Instruments Subic Bay Inc. will invest \$120,000 to assemble and export differential probe for high voltage power measurement. It will operate an engineering center for research and development.

Topwin Stone Subic Inc. would lay out \$100,000 to engage in manufacturing, processing and exporting of granite and marble.



PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo is interviewed by journalists following a meeting with officials of Sumitomo Corp. of Japan and subsidiary Sumitomo Fruits Corp. (Sumifru). Ms Arroyo is flanked by (from L) Shinsuke Ike, Sumitomo Manila office general manager; Joichi Saito, Sumifru chair; Jesus Mercado, Sumifru general manager; Yoshi Morimoto, Sumitomo senior managing director, and Sumifru president Paul Cuyegkeng. Sumifru announced its plan to expand its banana plantation in southern Philippines with P1 billion in fresh investment.

4-year bond rate up 187 bps to 8.37%

By Michelle V. Remo

THE 4-YEAR TREASURY BOND RATE rose breasted the 8-percent mark to hit 8.375 percent in yesterday's auction, as volatility in the international market continued to influence domestic interest rates.

The new rate for the government's four-year borrowings was 187.5 basis points higher than the 6.5 percent recorded in the auction in May.

The Bureau of the Treasury's auction committee had accepted the bids despite the higher rates as demand for the government security remained strong.

National Treasurer Omar Cruz had

said an increase in the rates was acceptable if it was backed by a huge volume of bids.

"It (new rate) is 187.5 basis points higher, but rates are also moving upward in the international market," Cruz said.

He noted that the new rate for the four-year bond was still lower than the rates for four-year bonds in the secondary market.

He said that in the secondary market, the 4-year bonds were trading between 8.4 and 8.5 percent.

Tenders for the 4-year bonds reached P21.195 billion, more than three times higher than the govern-

ment's debt offering of only P7 billion.

The BTR's auction committee accepted P7 billion worth of bids, raising the government's entire borrowing program for yesterday's auction.

The increases in interest rates here and overseas were triggered by the successive hikes in the US interest rates.

Cruz, however, said interest rates were expected to soften soon as the US Fed had already hinted its intention to put an end to the successive rate hikes. He added that improving economic indicators in the country would create a positive influence on the interest rate movement.

DTI chief sees capital inflows picking up soon

TRADE SECRETARY PETER B. FAVILA yesterday reaffirmed his optimism that investment would pick up due to "renewed investor confidence" although total investments approved by his department in the first half went down by a fifth to P100 billion.

Data from the Department of Trade and Industry showed that the Board of Investments and the Philippine Economic Zone Authority registered projects amounted to a total of P100.25 billion from January to June.

Of the amount, 44 percent or P43.8 billion represented foreign direct investments in infrastructure, manufacturing, real estate and information and communication technology sectors.

In a statement, Favila said President Macapagal-Arroyo had put in place a reform framework that rested on strict adherence to macroeconomic fundamentals, investments in vital infrastructure, and increased revenue through new taxes and enhanced collections.

"The results of our reform program in terms of a steady growth in investments, strong performance of export winners and jobs created for Filipinos showed that the reform breakthroughs at the macro-level have filtered to the microeconomy," he said.

Growth industries such as mining, logistics, health and wellness, tourism and IT-enabled services are being harnessed through public-private partnerships and are providing new opportunities for investors, Favila said.

Favila, who accompanied the President in her visit to Europe, said he had "very good discussions" with prospective investors in Rome and Madrid.

Ronnel W. Domingo

Guarantee on port loan questioned

A GROUP OF MINDANAO-BASED FARMERS and agriculture traders has questioned the granting of a government guarantee to a P1.6-billion loan used for the construction of a port in Sariaya, Quezon.

The Sarga Integrated Federation Inc. (Sifi) said in a statement that the government must explain why a guarantee was granted despite doubts about the project's viability, mainly due to its location and the absence of support facilities in the area.

The Philippine Export Import (Philexim) Credit agency had guaranteed the P1.6-billion loan obtained by the project proponent from a consortium of banks.

Philexim, an agency under the Department of Finance, guarantees loans for major development projects.

The Sifi said the facility "is too distant and too risky to be useful to local and international agriculture traders."

Farmer-leader and Sifi chair Edwin Paraluman said the port's location was not strategic and that there was no infrastructure support to entice distributors of farm products to use the facility.

The cost of using this port would only raise the prices of goods because of its distance to the market, Paraluman said.

World Bank backs compromise in Doha Round

By Doris C. Dumlaog

THE WORLD BANK HAS URGED THE G-8 countries and representatives from the developing world to accept a compromise deal in the Doha Round of negotiations under the World Trade Organization during a crucial meeting in St. Petersburg, Russia this Monday.

The call was made by World Bank president Paul Wolfowitz in a letter to the United States, Germany, Japan, France, Italy, Britain, Russia and Canada and developing world (G-20) representatives Brazil, China, India, Mexico, South Africa.

The Doha Round aims at lowering

barriers to trade around the world, focusing on making trade fairer for developing countries. The biggest issue in this round involves agricultural subsidies, talks on which had divided developed and the developing countries.

"While successfully concluding the Doha round will depend on a detailed formula and a painstaking technical process, there is the opportunity for the leaders gathered in St. Petersburg to provide the momentum essential to success. Next week, a collective pledge by the United States to reduce agriculture subsidies, by the European Union to improve market access and the +5 mem-

bers to limit tariffs on manufactures (a pledge that meets Chief Negotiator Pascal Lamy's "20-20-20" targets) could help seal a deal," Wolfowitz said in a letter released to the media yesterday.

Lamy's proposed 20-20-20 compromise involved an agreement between the G-20 "middle ground" and the developed countries on agricultural market access, a "Swiss" formula for industrial tariff cuts with a coefficient of "20" for advanced developing countries, and a ceiling of some \$20 billion for trade-distorting US payment programs.

"The world's poorest people, the 1.2 billion living on less than \$1 a day, are

counting on your good intentions being transformed into decisive action, just as last year when your resolute political leadership launched the historic Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative," he said.

A pro-development result, the World Bank chief said, would yield gains for rich and poor alike.

"It would be an important step on the path to full liberalization which could eventually generate \$300 billion a year in additional production for the world's economy. Developing countries could gain by as much as \$86 billion alone, dwarfing annual bilateral assistance efforts," Wolfowitz said.

Shares . . . From page B1 Exports surged . . . From page B1

real lead to follow, leaving investors to mark time after a volatile period.

The composite index was up 4.38 points to 2,243.22 after trading in a narrow band between 2,236.74 and 2,248.96. Volume was 940.25 million shares worth P805 million.

The broader all-shares index gained 1.82 points to 1,396.41.

Despite the headline index gains, losers led risers 44 to 27 on rotational selling in small capitalized stocks, with 42 stocks closing flat.

"There's very little reason to move the market either way," said Lawrence de Leon of Accord Capital Equities.

"Investors are now taking a breather after weeks of volatility, taking stock of events."

Dealers said the market would likely remain sluggish this month ahead of the release of quarterly corporate results and government fiscal data, with investors choosing short-term trade amid continuing concerns over regional security, high oil prices and the outlook for US interest rates. AFP

\$2.29 billion, up 9.9 percent from \$2.083 billion a year ago.

Arroyo noted that the increase in exports was no longer as heavily dependent on electronics as before. He said efforts to diversify the country's exports were beginning to show results.

Realizing the impact on Philippine exports of last year's slump in global demand for electronics, economic officials had stressed the need to diversify exports to protect the country from demand volatility.

"Programs to diversify exports, such as trade fairs by the Department of Trade and Industry that help expose Filipino-made products abroad, already started to bear fruit," he said.

NSO documents showed that electronics, which used to account for 70 percent of the country's total exports, accounted for only 59.1 percent in May.

Garments were the country's second top export earner, generating \$238.61 million, or 23.8 percent higher than last year's. Garments had a 6.2-percent share of the total export earnings in May.

Exports of cathodes of refined copper, the third top earner, reached \$106.59 million, or 207.3 percent higher than the \$34.69 a year ago.

Other top exports were: woodcrafts and furniture (\$84.35 million), coconut oil (\$65.07 million), ignition and other wiring sets (\$57.68 million), petroleum products (\$53.57 million), fresh bananas (\$42.74 million), and metal components (\$24.89 million).

The United States was the biggest export market in May, accounting for \$703.45 million or 18.1 percent of the total.

Japan was the second top export destination with \$672.18 million or 17.3 percent of total exports for the month. Earnings from exports to Japan were 23.3-percent higher than the year-ago figure.

Other top export markets were Singapore (\$351.24 million); China (\$345.59 million); Hong Kong (\$321.71 million); the Netherlands (\$267.90 million); Malaysia (\$228.87 million); Taiwan (\$163.64 million); Korea (\$140.35 million), and (Thailand, \$132.42 million).

DOF sacks corruption probers

From page B1

complaint filed by a Customs employee against four RIPS investigators for alleged extortion.

Victor Barros, Customs police sergeant, accused the RIPS investigators of asking P300,000 from him in exchange for clearance from a supposed lifestyle check. Barros said the suspects threatened to give him a failing mark in the lifestyle check unless he gave them the money.

The four were William Ached, Crispin Velarde, Jesus Bueno and Leon Acuna. They were among the 11 RIPS personnel that were stripped of their functions to conduct lifestyle checks.

The seven former RIPS investigators who were asked to leave the RIPS program were Ruben Frugoso, Troy Pizarro, Reynaldo Lazaro, Joselito Per-

nandez, Senen Castro, Ismael Leonor, and Virman Sayang-od. The finance official, however, did not say whether or not these seven were also facing formal complaints of extortion.

Mendoza said trimming down the original list of RIPS investigators was necessary to build the image of the office and help boost the government's anti-corruption program.

"We are appealing to our revenue and customs personnel to speak up and report RIPS investigators who are trying to extort money from them," Mendoza said.

The allegations of extortion against RIPS personnel has somewhat tainted the credibility of the office in pursuing the government's anti-corruption drive. But the DOF said

this would not hinder the office to continue conducting lifestyle checks, which finance officials said was still a good strategy of curbing corruption.

Mendoza noted that the complaint filed by Barros against four RIPS officials was not reason for the Customs official to be exempted from a lifestyle check. He said that there was an ongoing investigation on Barros for alleged corruption activities.

He said RIPS would be undergoing a capability enhancement program following the approval of a \$1.4-million grant by the US-based Millennium Challenge Corp. (MCC). The grant, to be disbursed in September, is intended to train RIPS personnel and purchase needed equipment.

Michelle V. Remo

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GMA 7 says it can still get Ch 27

By Daxim L. Lucas

GMA NETWORK INC. MAY STILL DEMAND to have the programs of its subsidiary aired over the channel 27 slot of Central Cable TV despite an agreement that seems to have settled the dispute with the Lopez-owned firm last week.

In a statement sent to the INQUIRER, a GMA 7 spokesperson said that although it has agreed to broadcast the signals of its QTV 11 unit over channel 24 of SkyCable—Central Cable TV's trade name—the network "has not waived its rights over cable channel 27."

"To specify, the ZOE letter sent by GMA Network, ZOE Broadcasting, and Central CATV states that, 'For the avoidance of doubt, this agreement is without prejudice to the right of GMA's UHF 27 to be aired/carried on Central CATV in the future if and when GMA decides to air Citynet 27's own programs in accordance with the NTC (National Telecommunications Commission) decision,' GMA's corporate communications head Butch S. Raquel said.

His statement comes after GMA 7 announced an agreement with SkyCable to transmit its unit's broadcast signals over GMA 7/B4

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Philex Corp. to revive mine

By Christine A. Gaylican

PHILEX MINING CORP. WILL REVIVE its Bulawan Gold project in Surigao due to the steady rise in gold and copper prices, a company official said.

The Bulawan prospect, which was shut down in 2002 due to flooding, still has some reserves and Philex president Walter Brown said in a briefing that the company was seriously considering reopening it.

"There is now work at the mine and it primarily involves rehabilitation and reforestation," Brown added.

Philex was encouraged to revive the mine by the rise in the prices of copper to \$2.50 this year from \$1.49 last year, and of gold from \$405-\$561 an ounce.

Brown said the record prices would boost the company's operating revenue once the mine is back in full operation.

The company reported a 377-percent jump in its consolidated net income for the first three months this year to P574.5 million from P120.4 million last year.

Philex said in a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange was attributed to the shipment of 20,082 tons of ore containing 9.4 million pounds of copper and 25,425 ounces of gold during the period.

Philex produces copper, gold and silver and gold bullion from its copper-gold mine in Padcal, a town in the northern province of Benguet.

New group takes over Legend hotel, casino

Services firm named liquidator by HK court

By Ansbet Joaquin
PDI Central Luzon Desk,
and Elizabeth L. Sanchez

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT ZONE—YET ANOTHER problem is facing the operator of the Legend Hotel and Casino here after the Hong Kong high court placed the company under liquidation last June 9.

Appointed liquidator by the Hong Kong court was financial turnaround expert Alvarez & Marsal, which immediately dismissed Khoo Boo Boon as chief operating officer of the Legend International Resorts Ltd., the casino's operator.

Tasked to take over the day to day operations of the company was Alvarez & Marsal director Martin Yupangco.

The appointment of a liquidator stems from a petition filed last November 3, 2004 by Morgan Stanley Emerging Markets Inc., a creditor of LIRL, to liquidate or sell the assets of LIRL for its failure to pay its debts.

Morgan Stanley claimed in its petition before the Hong Kong court (the equivalent of the Philippines' Court of Appeals) that LIRL owes it and another investment firm, Avenue Capital, roughly \$120 million.

LIRL owes another P365 million to the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp., which ordered LIRL to close its casino operations two months ago over the unpaid bills. Lawyer Conrado Dar Santos, counsel for the

liquidators, said that under Hong Kong law, the high court can place financially distressed companies under liquidation and appoint liquidators to rehabilitate the ailing firms.

LIRL, which operates a hotel and a casino here, has its main office in Hong Kong.

Tension rose on Monday when Khoo refused to recognize his successors. His men even drove Flynn's group out of the hotel's lobby.

Flynn added that he had visited the Subic property on Monday but was blocked by Khoo from implementing management changes in the hotel and Subic properties as part of the liquidation proceedings.

He claimed Khoo had prevented his access to the Subic properties—consisting of Legend Suites, Grand Seasons Hotel and Legend Hotel, which contains the casino.

In a press conference after the incident, Khoo said the liquidation order has yet to be recognized by Philippine courts.

Flynn, meanwhile, assured employees that they would be absorbed by the new team.

Yupangco added: "We see huge opportunity at Legend to rebuild the business and protect the jobs of the more than 1,500 people that work there. We have already formed the clear view that rehabilitation is the best way to maximize value for all stakeholders, and with its existing operations and the prospect of regaining the casino license we believe that Legend has a sound and secure future."

Big screen TV sales up

By Ronnel W. Domingo

LEADING APPLIANCES VENDOR Abenson is banking on liquid crystal display television sets to boost its sales as more Filipinos are buying big screen TVs.

Abenson president Winston Lim said yesterday in a briefing that Filipinos' viewing taste has become sophisticated, thus they were more likely to pick bigger screens should they decide to upgrade.

Citing a study made by global research group Growth for Knowledge or GfK, Lim said that the popularity of LCDs in Metro Manila alone grew by 242 percent—in terms of units sold—in the past year.

Lim said Abenson sales of LCD TVs grew 300 percent in the same period.

"The local market is following the

global trend in adapting LCD, which is the fastest growing segment in in the big screen segment," Lim said.

He explains that while screens bigger than 25 inches were considered "big," the demarcation line for mainstream buyers hovers between 32 and 40 inches.

Further, Lim said falling prices would boost sales of LCDs as GfK figures show that 32-inch units were selling at half the price of last year, while prices of 37-inch and 40-inch sets fell 70 percent and 65 percent, respectively.

He said a 32-inch LCD TV currently sells at almost P100,000, but that trends point to a continued downturn in prices.

"We believe LCDs will be top sellers in the next three years, with one out of five households having a big screen TV," Lim said.

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of July 11, 2006)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
Asiatrust Dev. Bank Inc.	5.6	5.7	5.6	5.7	10,000
Banco de Oro Univ. Bank	32	32	31	31	203,700
Bank of the Phil. Islands	50	50	49	49.5	727,600
China Banking Corp.	865	870	865	865	100
Citistate Savings Bank	20.5	20.5	20.5	20.5	100
Export and Ind. Bank A	0.39	0.39	0.39	0.39	610,000
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	75	75	73	73.5	125,200
International Exch. Bank	41.5	41.5	41.5	41.5	4,800
Malaybank Bank & Trust	35.5	35.5	35	35	405,600
Phil. Bank of Comm. A	50	50	50	50	200
Philippine National Bank	33	33	33	33	4,500
Phil. Savings Bank	39	39	39	39	5,000
Rizal Comm. Banking Corp.	19.5	19.5	19.25	19.25	17,900
Security Bank Corp.	46.5	46.5	46	46	14,800
Union Bank of the Phil.	43.5	43.5	43.5	43.5	2,100
OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS	29.5	31	29.5	31	8,500
First Metro Invest. Corp.	1650	1650	1650	1650	10
Manulife Financial Corp.	211	211	211	211	250
Phil. Stock Exchange Inc.	1.2	1.24	1.2	1.24	2,504,000
Investment Corp.					

INDUSTRIAL	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
ELECTRICITY, ENERGY, POWER & WATER					
First Gen Corp.	44	45	44	45	615,100
First Phil. Hldgs Corp.	46	46	45.5	45.5	395,200
Manila Electric Co. A	15.25	15.5	15.25	15.25	132,100
Manila Electric Co. B	24	24.5	24	24	1,218,000
Manila Water Co. Inc.	7.8	7.9	7.8	7.8	2,568,000
Petron Corp.	3.95	3.95	3.9	3.9	5,797,000
Trans-Asia Oil and Energy	0.95	0.95	0.94	0.94	210,000

FOOD, BEVERAGE & TOBACCO	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
Alaska Milk Corp.	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	520,000
CADP Group Corp.	3	3	2.7	2.7	40,000
Ginebra San Miguel Inc.	23.25	23.5	23.25	23.5	222,600
Jollibee Foods Corp.	33	33.5	33	33.5	270,000
Roxas Holdings Inc.	3	3	2.9	3	402,000
San Miguel Corp. A	65	65.5	65	65.5	54,000
San Miguel Corp. B	72	72	71	71.5	51,000
Universal Robina Corp.	18.75	20.25	18.75	19.5	1,826,600
Vitarich Corp.	0.205	0.205	0.205	0.205	200,000

CONSTRUCTION, INFRASTRUCTURE & ALLIED SERVICES	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
Global Equities Inc.	0.085	0.09	0.0825	0.085	6,300,000
SECTOR INDEX					
Global Equities Inc.	0.007	0.007	0.007	0.007	25,000,000

HOLDING FIRMS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
Abacus Con Res & Hdg A	0.007	0.007	0.007	0.007	25,000,000
Ayala Corp.	400	400	395	400	318,290
Aboliz Equity Ventures	5.3	5.4	5.3	5.4	254,000
Alliance Global Group Inc.	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.75	718,000
A. Soriano Corp.	1.76	1.76	1.74	1.74	500
APC Group Inc.	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19	100,000
Alcoron Gold Res. Corp.	0.008	0.008	0.0075	0.0075	109,000,000
Anglo Phil. Holdings Corp.	0.96	0.96	0.95	0.96	70,000
Baguio Gold Holdings Corp.	1.2	1.32	1.2	1.32	20,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	1.1	1.14	1.1	1.12	17,256,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	478,000
Fluvest Dev. Corp.	2.75	2.75	2.75	2.75	70,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	6.1	6.3	6.1	6.3	1,274,000
Keppel Holdings	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	180,000
Solid Group Inc.	0.56	0.56	0.56	0.56	50,000
Singapore Corp.	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	300,000
SM Investments Corp.	213	213	212	212	50,310
South China Resources Inc.	0.85	0.85	0.83	0.83	270,000
Vivant Corp.	0.83	0.85	0.83	0.85	30,000

PROPERTY	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
Ayala Land Inc.	11.75	12.25	11.75	12	12,901,200
Belle Corp.	1.05	1.08	1.06	1.06	1,632,000
Crown Equities Inc.	0.27	0.27	0.27	0.27	3,100,000
Cebu Holdings Inc.	2.06	2.1	2.06	2.08	4,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	2,140,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	1.3	1.3	1.28	1.28	2,363,000
Highlands Prime Inc.	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	10,000
City & Land Developers	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	6,000
Fil-Estate Land Inc.	0.42	0.42	0.42	0.42	140,000
Megaworld Corp.	1.44	1.44	1.42	1.44	437,000
Metroworld Corp.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	660,000
Robinsons Land Corp.	10.75	11	10.75	11	277,000
Phil Realty and Holdings	0.27	0.27	0.27	0.27	200,000
SM Development Corp.	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	20,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.8	603,000
Suntrust Home Dev. Inc.	0.53	0.53	0.53	0.53	200,000
Uniwid Holdings Inc.	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	1,400,000

SERVICE MEDIA	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	16.75	16.75	16.5	16.5	18,200
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
Digital Telecom Phils Inc.	1.24	1.24	1.22	1.24	1,210,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	940	940	930	930	29,520
Philippine Tel. Corp.	3.4	3.45	3.3	3.4	1,293,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	1945	1965	1945	1965	22,210
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
Imperial Res.	0.011	0.011	0.011	0.011	200,000
Ionics Inc.	1.9	1.9	1.88	1.88	60,000
Philweb Corp.	0.032	0.032	0.032	0.032	79,800,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	14.25	14.25	14	14	218,900
HOTEL & LEISURE	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
Asselle Phils Hotel Corp.	4.45	4.5	4.45	4.5	1,578,000
Leisure & Resorts Corp.	1.32	1.32	1.3	1.3	105,000
Premiere Ent. Prod. Inc.	0.23	0.23	0.21	0.23	1,700,000
Waterfront Phils. Inc.	0.54	0.54	0.54	0.54	400,000

EDUCATION	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
People Inc.	3	3	2.95	2.95	56,000
DIVERSIFIED SERVICES	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
Macro Asia Corp.	1.98	2	1.98	2	30,000
Paxys Inc.	11	11	11	11	29,500
Prime Gaming Phils. Inc.	25	25	25	25	250,000
MINING	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
Apex Mining Co. Inc. A	3.75	3.75	3.45	3.45	4,708,000
Apex Mining Co. Inc. B	3.8	3.8	3.4	3.4	1,967,000
Abra Mining & Industrial	0.008	0.008	0.008	0.008	5,000,000
Alas Cons. Min. & Dev't	7.9	7.9	7.6	7.6	471,000
Lepanto Cons. Min. & Dev't	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	2,290,000
Lepanto Cons. Min. & Dev't	0.32	0.33	0.32	0.33	5,980,000
Manila Mining Corp. A	0.023	0.024	0.023	0.024	291,100,000
Manila Mining Corp. B	0.026	0.026	0.026	0.026	196,900,000
Omico Corp.	0.008	0.008	0.008	0.008	15,000,000
Philmin Mining Corp. A	4	4	3.9	3.95	4,419,000
Philmin Mining Corp. B	4.05	4.05	3.95	4	5,330,000
Semirara Mining Corp.	27	27	26.5	27	42,900
OIL	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
Basic Consolidated Inc.	0.26	0.26	0.25	0.25	1,200,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.01	0.011	0.01	0.01	103,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. B	0.011	0.011	0.011	0.011	2,700,000
The Philodrill Corp. A	1.22	1.24	1.22	1.22	534,000
The Philodrill Corp. B	1.2	1.26	1.2	1.26	406,000
Petroenergy Res. Corp.	16.75	16.75	16	16	210,300
PREFERRED	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
PLDT 10% Pref Series Aa	11	11	11	11	200
WARRANTS, PHIL. DEPOSIT RECEIPTS, ETC.	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (Pdr)	16.75	17	16.75	16.75	1,260,000

CURRENCIES	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Dollar Equivalent	Peso Equivalent
July 11, 2006				
Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Dollar Equivalent	Peso Equivalent

CURRENCIES				
July 11, 2006		Euro	Dollar	Peso
Country	Unit	Equivalent	Equivalent	Equivalent
United States	Dollar	0.784929	1.000000	52.1350
Japan	Yen	0.006876	0.008760	0.4567
United Kingdom	Pound	1.445683	1.841800	96.0222
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.101009	0.128685	6.7090
Switzerland	Franc	0.638154	0.813008	42.3862
Canada	Dollar	0.698087	0.889363	46.3569
Singapore	Dollar	0.498400	0.634961	33.1037
Australia	Dollar	0.587302	0.748223	39.0086
Bahrain	Dinar*	2.082151	2.652661	138.2965
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.209309	0.266660	13.9023
Brunei	Dollar	0.496822	0.632951	32.9989
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000087	0.000111	0.0058
Thailand	Baht	0.020760	0.026448	1.3789
UAE	Dirham	0.213703	0.272257	14.1941
Euro	Euro	1.000000	1.274000	66.4200
Argentina	Peso	0.254434	0.324149	16.8995
Brazil	Real	0.361936	0.461106	24.0398
Denmark	Kroner	0.134041	0.170768	8.9030
India	Rupee	0.017075	0.021753	1.1341
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.215640	0.274725	14.3228
Mexico	New Peso	0.071308	0.090847	4.7363
New Zealand	Dollar	0.478878	0.610091	31.4060
Norway	Kroner	0.125032	0.159291	8.2037
Pakistan	Rupee	0.013023	0.016591	0.8537
South Africa	Rand	0.110858	0.141233	7.3947
Korea	Won	0.000834	0.001062	0.0548
Sweden	Kroner	0.190909	0.138877	7.4604
Syria	Pound	0.015121	0.019264	1.0119
Taiwan	Nt Dollar	0.024296	0.030953	1.6037
Turkey	Lira	0.002265	0.002465	0.1250

Valdes vs Valdes

AN INHERITANCE FIGHT HAS ERUPTED among the 10 children of accounting legend Carlos J. Valdes, with his eldest now facing three criminal charges for allegedly having acquired his parents' Baguio property through a spurious deed of sale.

Gabriel A.S. Valdes, 61, the father of fashion designer Bea Valdes, was said to have bought for more than P23 million his parents' 7,124.54-square-meter property at 2 Cecilio Apostol St., adjacent to the Mansion House.

The questioned deed of sale was effected in December 2005 with the signatures of his parents, except that Gabriel A.S. Valdes' mother had passed away two years earlier.

The 87-year-old father—a former ambassador to Italy, the Vatican and Japan during the Marcos years—is in frail health and his business interests are now being administered by the accused, according to the grapevine.

In his defense, the accused instead blamed the notary public, lawyer Hermenigildo Monta, for the irregularities, "who made it appear that Carlos J. Valdes, who was in and out of hospitals at that time, appeared before him and executed that false deed of sale."

The eldest sibling claimed the youngest, Jose Marie A.S. Valdes, 48, not only filed the complaint but also fabricated the documents to implicate him.

The accused faces two estafa cases before Baguio RTC Judge Fernando Pamintuan, and another case for use of falsified document before the Baguio Municipal Trial Court.

According to the grapevine, because of the suit, Jose Marie is now being ejected by his eldest brother from the sprawling family farm in Bagac, Bataan, where, despite his Italian education, Jose Marie has been posted by his father to live and oversee the farm at a monthly allowance of P15,000.

The eldest Valdes sibling himself lives in North Forbes, in a property owned by the late jeweller Fe Panlilio, whose daughter, Pamela, he is married to. The Valdeses also own the seven-story CJV building on Aguirre Street in Legaspi Village, which still houses the father's much reduced law office.

COCKTALES



Victor C. Agustin

Notwithstanding his stature in society, the Supreme Court in 1998 suspended the former ambassador for one year, for having allowed his law firm to represent the estate of Jose Nakpil against its creditors while his accounting firm represented two estate creditors.

The Carlos J. Valdes accountancy practice has also been reduced to a ghost of its glorious self, after the walkout of 14 of the 15 partners in 1995.

Part of the extensive Valdes property holdings in Bataan include what is now known as the Anvaya Cove, which has since been bought and developed by Ayala Land into a luxury resort.

Money-go-round

• CONSTRUCTION magnate Isidro Consunji has taken over the CEO post of Semirara Mining Corp. from his younger brother Victor, who has agreed to slide down as chief operating officer.

• ASIAKONSTRUCT, which built the Centennial Expo in Clark during the Ramos years, has been awarded a subcontract to build a runway for the new Qatar International Airport.

AsiaKonstruct CEO Edgardo Angeles is now rushing the travel documents of more than 400 engineers and construction crew to be deployed for the prestige project.

Heard through the grapevine

THE OWNERSHIP of the new De La Salle school in Balanga, Bataan, administered by anti-GMA Bro. Bernard Oca is in jeopardy since it is part of the Valdes estate that had been "donated" to the Catholic Church by the eldest Valdes son without the consent of the other Valdes heirs.

(Email: cocktales_pdi@pldtdsl.net or cocktales_pdi@yahoo.com)

San Miguel, Coca-Cola in talks on fate of local bottling venture

US firm may buy back RP unit

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

AMERICAN BEVERAGE GIANT THE COCA-COLA Co. may buy back a majority stake in its Philippine bottler from its local partner San Miguel Corp.

A statement issued by San Miguel to the Philippine Stock Exchange said the local brewer, which holds 65 percent of the venture, was in talks with Atlanta-based Coca-Cola over their venture, Coca-Cola Bottlers Philippines Inc (CCBPI).

"The company and the Coca-Cola Co. continue their discussions on the ownership of CCBPI. The discussions, at this time, include negotiations over The Coca-Cola Co. taking a majority stake in, and management and operational control of, CCBPI," San Miguel said.

It stressed that no definite agreements have been reached so far.

CCBPI is one of the top 10 bottlers of Coca-Cola worldwide.

Earlier reports said that Coca-Cola was set to terminate the bottling agreement with San Miguel amid weak sales.

Sources said San Miguel and Coca-Cola were initially reviewing the terms relating to the price at which San Miguel pays for Coke's concentrate, a key factor that determines the cost for bottling the popular beverage brand.

They added that the talks have taken a major turn, discussing the possible divestment by San Miguel of its stake in the soft drinks venture.

CCBPI—which includes Cosmos Bottling Corp. and Philippine Beverage Partners—ac-

counts for 15 percent of San Miguel's total revenues.

In terms of operating income, CCBPI accounts for 5 percent of San Miguel's total.

Recently, San Miguel postponed a proposed hybrid share offer by San Miguel Capital Funding Ltd. after the group received an anonymous and undated letter alleging overstated sales in one of San Miguel's subsidiaries, Philippine Beverage Partners Inc. (Philbev).

The incident has fueled talk that the terms of San Miguel's partnership with Coke might be affected.

San Miguel acquired in 2001 a majority stake in CCBPI, but was hobbled by the beverage firm's

weak sales.

Under the agreement with Coca-Cola, San Miguel will take care of operating and distributing the brand, while the American firm will provide advertising support and promotional activities.

Analysts had said that if San Miguel were to continue with its Coke franchise, it may want a better deal on advertising spending, royalties, new products and cost cuts to be competitive.

They added that San Miguel and Coca-Cola should rethink their strategy since market share in the beverage industry had been shrinking due to the entry of new products.

ePLDT clinches SPi acquisition for \$135M

PHILIPPINE LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE Co.'s (PLDT) information and communications technology arm, ePLDT, completed its acquisition of business process outsourcing (BPO) giant SPi Technologies Inc. for \$135.34 million.

The sale involved an advance payment of \$16.43 million to cover parent company SPi Tech L.P.'s loan to DBS Bank Singapore. Also under the deal, ePLDT assumed \$7 million of SPi Tech's debts.

The acquisition places PLDT at the forefront of the Philippines' continued growth as a major hub for BPO services. It combines SPi's 6,500 employees and 4,200 seats worldwide with those of ePLDT's Ventus call center group. The resulting firm will have more than 11,000 employees and about 8,300 seats in its BPO/call center operations.

SPi is the world's second-largest pure-play BPO company and the ninth-biggest independent provider in the industry. Its customers include Fortune 100 companies, non-profit organizations and government agencies in the financial services, healthcare, legal and publishing markets.

The BPO giant's main services include content editorial and production, litigation support coding and electronic data discovery, medical transcription, database structuring and management and transaction processing. The BPO company services these customers in 19 locations, including onsite facilities and offices in the Philippines, India, US, Europe, China and Vietnam.

On the other hand, the ePLDT Ventus call center group—consisting of Parlance Systems Inc., Vocativ Systems Inc. and ePLDT Ventus Inc.—operates seven call center facilities in Makati, Taguig, Pasig, Mandaluyong, Quezon City and Iloilo. These offices render primarily voice-based services to large US-based clients and outsourcers.

Riza T. Olchondra

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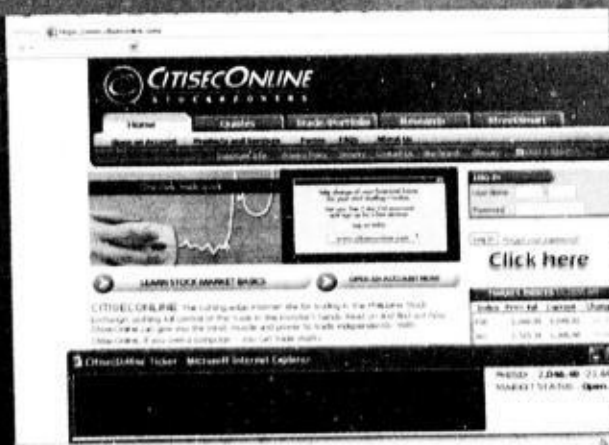
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DIANA PICAZO-RAMOSO

1938 – 2006

*Peacefully joined our Creator
at the age of 68.*

Her beloved husband Franco;
children Mary Rose Peña, Rico, Reena Francisco,
Rebie; children-in-law Roy, Meg, Dan;
grandchildren Tedi, Kokoy, Luci, Jackie, Raco,
Mico, Naja; siblings Ramon and Didi
request relatives and friends to join them
in their prayers.

Her remains lie at the Chapel of San Lorenzo,
Sta. Maria della Strada Parish, Katipunan Ave.,
Quezon City.

Holy Masses will be offered on the following days:
July 12, Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.
July 13, Thursday at 6:00 p.m.

Interment will be on Friday, July 14, 2006
at the FBR Arcade Chapel, 5/F, 317 Katipunan Ave.,
Loyola Heights, Quezon City after the
10:00 a.m. Mass at Chapel of San Lorenzo.

ROSITA BATA UY

(December 01, 1935 – July 10, 2006)

Founder & Director of:

ALEXANDER'S WEAR International Corporation
TOKYO PACIFIC Industrial Corporation
NAGOYA Industrial Corporation
CYBERTEX Marketing Incorporated

Her husband: Uy An;
children: Robert & Hosanna;
Evelyn & Edward; Addison & Judy;
Alexander & Marlyn; Napoleon & Eliza;
grandchildren: Janice Adeline, Sharleen Bernice,
Mikhail Ronald Robertson, Michelle Valerie,
Sherrill Blanca, (†) Derrick Blade, Sharrie Danica,
Kimberly Mae, Kathleen Maisie, Chloe Lauryn,
Irvin Sanford, Daphnie Chenille,
Edilyn Ruth & Kirk Kennedy; relatives & friends
request the pious readers to pray for the
eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Superior Chapel,
La Funeraria Paz, 143 G. Araneta Avenue
corner Kaliraya Street, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Sunday, July 16, 2006 at
the Manila Memorial Park in Sucat, Parañaque, leaving
La Funeraria Paz at 9 o'clock in the morning.

"May God bless all your kind prayers."

BEATRIZ CO ONG

(May 29, 1931 – July 3, 2006)

*Died in the Grace of our Lord on July 3, 2006
at the age of 75 in Los Angeles, California, (U.S.A.)*

Her children: Alfred and Grace, Ricardo & Betty, Wilson & Lucinda,
Susan & William, Lucy & William, Edwin & Rhea, Arthur & Bonbon,
and Michael, grandchildren and relatives request the pious readers to pray
for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Arlington Memorial Chapels, G. Araneta
Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on July 17, 2006 at the Holy Cross
Memorial Park, Quezon City at 9:00 o'clock A.M.

DELGADO RATUNIL UY

*A loving and dedicated father passed away in the Grace of Our Lord
on Thursday, July 6, 2006 at the age of 72.*

Delgado was born on July 10, 1934 in Lugait, Misamis Oriental. He earned
his Bachelor of Science in Commerce from the University of the East in 1955.

He was a Past National President of the Philippine Institute of Certified
Public Accountants and stood among the very few CPAs in the Accountancy
Hall of Fame. He was a Past District Governor of Rotary International, District
3870. He also served as the first Regional Director of the Professional
Regulation Commission for Region X.

Delgado will be sadly missed but lovingly remembered. His generosity and
kind heart were an inspiration to his family and friends. He lived life to the fullest
with integrity.

Delgado is survived by his loving wife Peregrina Barreto Uy, children
Mariezel and Rene Villapando; Delgado, Jr. and Memie; Josephine and
Oscar Chiu; Sheila and Dino Pastoriza; Magdalena and Woodward
Villalino; Julius; Joseph and Czarina; Feliz Marie; Michael and Mylene, his
sisters Loreta Uy-Semaña; Concepcion Uy-Santos, brothers Peter; Benedicto
and Walter, in laws Jimmy Semaña; Rosa Macad; Maricar Laya and Benny
Santos, grandchildren, cousins, nephews, nieces, grandnephews and
grandnieces.

His remains lie in state at the Cosmopolitan Funeral Homes, Iligan City.
Funeral Services will be held on **Saturday, July 15, 2006**
at the San Roque Parish Church at **8:00 a.m.** and interment
will follow at the Lugait Family Mausoleum.



In Loving Memory
PEDRO GARCIA SARMIENTO
(05 February 1933 – 10 July 2006)

of Quezon City and Sta. Rita, Pampanga

His loving wife, Delia Santos;
children Didi, Dodjie and Margie;
grandchildren Danica and Sabrina;
relatives and friends request the pious readers
to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Loyola Memorial
Chapels, Guadalupe, Makati City. Holy Mass
will be offered at 7:30 p.m. daily.

Interment will be on 14 July 2006 at Loyola
Memorial Park, Marikina after the 1 p.m. Mass.

*"...absent with the body to be present with the lord."
2 Corinthians 5:8*

CPL. JORGE A. TUMAMAO

*In peace, grace & fortitude joined our Creator
on July 10, 2006 at the age of 47.*

His beloved wife Elsa A. Tumamao; children
Georgina, Kenneth Frank, Ma. Elysa & Noeme Ann;
relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray
for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the Airport Police
Headquarters in Pasay City.

"Come
to Me,
all you
who are
weary
and
burdened,
and
I will
give you
rest."

Matthew 11:28

"Even when I walk through a dark
valley, I feel no harm. For you are
at my side, your rod and staff
give me courage..." Psalm 23:4

In Loving Memory of

Jose SF. Velasquez, MD, FPCS, FICS
(22 December 1939 - 12 July 2005)

on the 1st Anniversary of his Rebirth to Eternal Life.
Holy Mass will be offered today, 12 July 2006 at:
Our Lady of Peace and Good Voyage Church
(Gen. Santos City) ... 3:45 a.m.

Please remember Jose in your prayers.
May we request all his loved ones,
relatives, friends and pious readers to pray
for the eternal repose of his soul.



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INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO RE-BID
The PNOC-Energy Development Corporation is inviting all interested suppliers to apply and submit sealed bids for the supply and delivery of the following:

Description and PR no.	Approved Budget	Pre-Bid Conference	Bid Opening
Printing of 160,000 pieces 2007 PNOC-EDC Wall Calendar under PR-602922	PHP 4,160,000.00	July 27, 2006	August 17, 2006
Various Cable Ties and Accessories under GN-5161005/19001/519002	PHP 2,099,159.00	July 19, 2006	August 9, 2006
Fluorimeter, Non-Invasive Ultrasonic, Portable under PN-637206	PHP 419,000.00 for PN-637206	July 19, 2006	August 11, 2006
Infrared Imaging Camera under PN-637207	PHP 1,435,000.00 for PN-637207		
Power Quality Stabilizer under PN-637213	PHP 377,300.00 for PN-637213		

Eligibility forms and bidding documents shall be available for issuance at the above address at Cielo B. de Castro starting July 14, 2006, from 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P400.00 per document. For purposes of clarifying certain matters, a pre-bidding conference shall be held on the above date, 2:00 p.m. at the above address.

Applications for eligibility and sealed bids shall be submitted to, and registered with the PNOC-EDC Supply Management Department at the above address and thereafter dropped in the padlocked bid box (therein not later than 2:00 p.m. (Supply Management Office Wall Clock Time) of the above date. Public opening of bids shall follow immediately thereafter. Late bids shall not be accepted.

Prospective bidders shall comply with the bidding terms and conditions, as required, and shall ensure the same through proper submission/execution. Source of funding is from Internal Cash Generation of PNOC-EDC. All bids should be within the Approved Budget for the Contract in order to qualify.

PNOC-Energy Development Corporation reserves the right to annul the bidding process, to reject any or all bids, to waive any informality in the bids received and to accept such bid which is most advantageous to PNOC-EDC without thereby incurring liability to the affected bidder or bidders or any obligation to inform the affected bidder or bidders of the ground(s) for PNOC-EDC's action.

Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee

(PNOC-July 12 & 19, 2006)

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AFTERNOON. RESPECTIVELY,
FEB. 13 - MAR. 12, 2006.
SONS OF J. LANUZA,
AUCTIONEER
(PDI-July 12, 2006)

MARA PAWNSHOP
I, II, III, IV AND COMBINO BR
OF MAKATI CITY AUCTION
SALE ON JULY 12, 2006, WED
AT 10:30, 11:00, 12:30, 1:30
AND 8:30 IN THE MORNING
AND ON THE AFTERNOON RESPECTIVELY,
FEB. 13 - MAR. 12, 2006.
SONS OF J. LANUZA,
AUCTIONEER
(PDI-July 12, 2006)

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Remedios G. Daba was
self adjudicated by her as
Per Doc. No. 190, Page No.
38, Book No. IV, Series of
2006 before Notary Public
Cesar R. Santiago of
Makati City (7/10/06).
(PDI-July 12, 19 & 26, 2006)

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Invitation to Apply for Eligibility and to Bid
Republic of the Philippines

Procurement of Contract for the Construction of the Riviera Residential Estates Underground Electrification and Street Lighting along the Main Road of the complex.

- The AFP Retirement and Separation Benefits System (AFP-RSBS), through the Corporate Budget for the contract approved by the Governing Board intends to apply the sum of Ninety Four Million Six Hundred Thousand Pesos (P94,600,000.00) Philippine currency, being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) on the Construction of the Riviera Residential Estates Underground Electrification and Street Lighting along the Main Road of the complex. Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at Bid opening.
- The AFP-RSBS now calls for the submission of Letters of Intent (LOI) from potential Bidders to apply for eligibility for Construction of the Riviera Residential Estates Underground Electrification and Street Lighting along the Main Road of the complex. Bidders should possess, a valid PCAB, category "AA" license in General Buildings, Inter-Agency License Large A Category for Electrical works with actual work experience of the type of contract and cost, have completed a similar contract with a value of at least fifty percent (50%) of the ABC, and meet the other minimum eligibility requirements stated in the Eligibility Documents. Interested Bidders must submit their LOI's on or before 5 PM of 26 July 2006 at CMA-A AFP-RSBS Building, 424 Capinpin Ave. Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City and secure Eligibility Documents therefrom. The applications for eligibility will be evaluated on a "pass/fail" basis. The deadline for the submission of eligibility requirements is on 8 August 2006 at 5 PM at the address given below. The Opening of Eligibility Documents shall be on 10 August 2006 at 2 PM at the Board Room, AFP-RSBS Building, 424 Capinpin Ave. Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City. Eligibility Documents shall be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend. Only those Bidders passing the eligibility check will be entitled to purchase the Bidding Documents.
- Bidding shall be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of Republic Act (RA 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act", and is restricted, unless otherwise stated, to organizations with at least seventy-five percent (75%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines. In accordance with IRR-A of RA 9184, only Bids from eligible Bidders will be opened. In accordance with IRR-A of RA 9184, a contract will only be awarded to the Lowest Calculated Responsive Bidder who was determined as such during post-qualification.
- Interested Bidders may obtain further information from the BAC Secretariat of the AFP-RSBS and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address indicated below.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by Bidders that passed the eligibility check upon the presentation of the Notice of Eligibility to the BAC Secretariat, at the address shown below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Twelve Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (P12,500.00) Philippine currency. The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the Bidders or his authorized representative on 17 August 2006.
- The AFP-RSBS will hold a Pre-Bid Conference open to all Eligible Bidders on 6 September 2006 at 10 AM at the CMA-A AFP-RSBS Building, 424 Capinpin Ave., Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.
- Eligible Bidders must submit their Bids at the address shown below on or before 18 September 2006 at 9 AM, RSBS Board Room. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in the form of any of the following: cash, certified check, cashier's check, manager's check, bank draft or irrevocable letter of credit issued by a reputable commercial bank, which shall be 1% of ABC or Nine Hundred Forty Six Thousand Pesos (P946,000.00) Philippine Currency or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency. Late Bids shall not be accepted. Bid opening shall be on 18 September 2006 at 9:05 AM, RSBS Board Room at the AFP-RSBS Building, 424 Capinpin Ave. Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City. Bids will be opened in the presence of Bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
- The AFP-RSBS reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the Bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
AFP Retirement and Separation Benefits System
AFP-RSBS Building, 424 Capinpin Ave.
Camp E. Aguinaldo, Quezon City
Tel. Nos. 9114071 loc. 266 / 289 / 281

(Sgd.) BGEN. FRANKLIN C. ACOSTA (Ret)
Chairman
Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI - July 12 & 19, 2006)

Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas
MAYNILA, PILIPINAS

BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID
The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites suppliers/manufacturers/distributors to apply for eligibility and to bid for the hereunder project:

Name of Project/Brief Description	Delivery of 3 units Order Picker Equipment per BSP specifications
Approved Budget for the Contract	P4,800,000.00
Delivery Period	Within sixteen (16) weeks after receipt of approved contract

Prospective bidders should have undertaken a similar project within the last five (5) years with an amount of at least 50% of the Approved Budget for the Contract. The Eligibility Check/Screening as well as the Preliminary Examination of Bids shall use non-discretionary "pass/fail" criteria. Post-qualification of the lowest calculated bids shall be conducted.

All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-Bidding Conference(s), Evaluation of Bids, Post-Qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of R.A. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).

The complete schedule of activities is listed, as follows:

Activities	Schedule
1. Issuance of Bid Documents	13 July 2006 to 27 July 2006
2. Pre-Bid Conference	28 July 2006, 3:00 p.m.
3. Opening of Bids	15 August 2006, 2:00 p.m.
4. Bid Evaluation	These shall be in accordance with the prescribed periods allowed in the Implementing Rules & Regulations (IRR)-A of R.A. No. 9184 dated 10 January 2003.
5. Post-qualification	
6. Notice of Award	

Bid Documents will be available only to prospective bidders upon payment of a non-refundable amount of P2,400.00 to the BSP Cashier.

The BSP assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of the bid.

The BSP reserves the right to reject any and all bid proposals, or declare the bidding a failure, or not award the contract, and makes no assurance that a contract shall be entered into as a result of this invitation.

(Sgd.) JUAN DE ZUÑIGA, JR.
Chairman

(PDI-July 12, 2006)

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF MISAMIS ORIENTAL
MUNICIPALITY OF GITAGUM
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Infrastructure For Rural Productivity Enhancement Sector (InRPS) Project

BIDS & AWARD COMMITTEE

INVITATION FOR BID

Date: July 05, 2006
Loan No.: 1772-PI
Contract No.: SP-10-002-01

- The Republic of the Philippines has received a loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) towards the cost of the INFRASTRUCTURE FOR RURAL PRODUCTIVITY ENHANCEMENT SECTOR (InRPS) PROJECT and it is intended that the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the Contract for Gitagum Farm-to-Market Road (9 Segment). Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries of the Asian Development Bank that:
 - are registered with the Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board to undertake infrastructure projects as a Class "Medium A" with License Category B contractor or better.
 - have undertaken within the past five (5) years, as the contractor, management contractor, 3 (three) road construction work, projects valued at least P10,000,000.00 Pesos each for single "Medium A" contractor, (and for a joint venture).
- The Local Government Unit of Gitagum (the Employer) invites sealed bids from bidders with the above qualifications for the Upgrading of 9-segments Farm to Market Roads, 16.26 kms. total length. The works include supply, placing and compaction of Sub-Base Course and Aggregate Base Course, Grouted Riprap Canal, Slope Protection, Double-Barrel RC Box Culvert, RCPC, PCPC, or until such completion of the works. The Contract Period is twelve months (365 calendar days).
- Bidders may obtain further information from, and inspect and acquire the bidding documents, at the office of the Employer, at:

Office of the Municipal Mayor
InRPS Local Project Office
Municipality of Gitagum
Province Misamis Oriental
Region X
- A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by interested eligible bidders on submission of a written application to the above office, and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P10 Thousand (Pesos 10,000.00).
- All Bids must be accompanied by a Security of 2% of the total Bid Price or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency, and must be delivered to the above address on or before 10:00 A.M. on September 04, 2006. Bids will be opened at 1:00 P.M. on the same date as above, in the presence of bidders' representative who choose to attend. The pre-bid conference will be held on August 23, 2006, 2:00 p.m. at the Municipal Hall Building.
- The Employer reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect or formality, assume no obligation whatsoever to compensate indemnity to the contractor/bidder for any expense that they incur in the preparation of bid to accept the bid most advantageous to the government.

(Sgd.) ENGR. WALTER U. ORCERADA
BAC Chairman

(PDI-July 12 & 19, 2006)

NFA Central office moves to Phil Sugar Center building

THE CENTRAL OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL FOOD Authority is now housed at the Philippine Sugar Center building located at North Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City. Since the first week of June, various departments of the central office have started transferring to the Philippine Sugar Center building. Full transfer of the entire central office is expected to be completed by August 1.

The NFA's current location is within the vicinity of other government offices, including those attached to the Department of Agriculture. The NFA is also attached to the DA.

The NFA has rented a private building along E. Rodriguez

Sr. Avenue for the past 26 years. With its transfer to a government building, the food agency is expected to save on rental fees. With its proximity to its motorpool in Visayas Avenue, the NFA is also expected to generate savings on fuel costs, vehicle maintenance and man-hours.

The public may reach the NFA through the following new contact numbers: 928-1634 & 926-6443, administrator's office (AO): 426-5063, office of the deputy administrator for operations (ODOA): 920-8564, office of the deputy administrator for finance and administration (ODAF): 920-7692, office of the assistant administrator for industry development

(OAAID): 426-6932, office of the assistant administrator for finance (OAAF).

The other telephone numbers are 454-4419, office of the NFA Council; 927-4862, office of the director for general services (GSD-DO); 920-8069, purchasing; 927-9787, enforcement, investigation and prosecution department (EIPD); 920-2794, directorate for treasury, budget and fund management (DTBFM); and 927-7189, radio communication (Radiocom-GSD).

For more information on the NFA building, relocation, the public may send their concerns via the Text NFA Program through mobile number 0917-6210927.

OBITUARIES

"...absent
from the
body to be
present
with the
Lord."
— 2 Corinthians 5:8

PILAR R. SORIANO

Died in the Grace of our Lord on July 11, 2006 at the age of 83.

Her loving husband PABLO; children Eduardo, Jaime, Susan, Roberto, Erlinda, Manuel, Cristina, George, Margarita, Mary Ann and John; in-laws, grandchildren, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Resurreccion Chapel-Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Mahinhin St., UP-Diliman, Q.C.

Interment will be on Saturday, July 15, 2006 at Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina City after the 8:00 a.m. Mass.

ATTY. ARSENIO M. CABRERA

of Taal, Batangas

Peacefully joined our Lord
on July 9, 2006 at the age of 86.

He is survived by his loving wife Aurora; his children Nina and Sito Muñoz, Arthur and Cynthia, Agnes, Annamari, Che and Lynn, Alice, and Dada and Glenn Agbayani; his grandchildren Lee, Cristina, Nicolo, Carlo, Allan, Paolo, John, Jacob, Christopher, Julia, and Luigi; brother and sisters-in-law Alfredo and Paula Cabrera, Rosario Cabrera, Virginia Ramos, and Teresita Coronel; nephews, nieces and other relatives who request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Arlington Memorial Chapel, Araneta Avenue, Quezon City and will be brought to his residence on C. Ilagan St., Taal, Batangas after the 9:00 a.m. Holy Mass on Friday, the 14th of July 2006.

Interment will be at the Taal Catholic Cemetery on Saturday, the 15th of July 2006 after the 1:00 p.m. Holy Mass at San Martin de Tours Basilica, Taal, Batangas.

An obituary with a
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fitting tribute to your
departed loved one.

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INQUIRER OBITUARIES

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS: • Copy of Death Certificate
• Any identification documents

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BUSINESS

Meralco denies hand in Masinloc supply deal

Banks may soon engage in SBL

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE BANGKO SENTRAL NG PILIPINAS IS set to allow banks to trade securities they don't own without being burdened with a reserve requirement on such transactions—a practice known around the world as securities borrowing and lending (SBL).

BSP Deputy Governor Nestor Espenilla Jr. told reporters the banking regulator would complement the Securities and Exchange Commission's recent promulgation of regulations on SBL, which allows market players to make two-way quotes (buy or sell) to maximize opportunities during a bearish market.

Once they get to borrow or lend securities among themselves, banks will be in a position to better employ investment strategies like short-selling—or selling securities they have yet to

buy—arbitraging, or taking advantage of rate differentials and hedging risks.

Espenilla said the SBL rule issued by the SEC would not only apply to stocks trading, but also to the domestic bond market. He said the forthcoming BSP circular would exempt banks' SBL transactions from the reserve requirement to encourage these activities.

"This is part of the reforms to create liquidity in the market," Espenilla said. "It helps in deepening liquidity because a dealer ought to make two-way quotes. But it's very hard for a dealer or a market-maker to have firm offer rates if the offer is hit and he doesn't have the security."

"With SBL, the dealer can borrow the securities so it makes the market more efficient and reliable. That's why the BSP is very supportive of SBL."

Power firm says it won't compromise consumers' interests

By Abigail L. Ho

THE LOPEZ-LED MANILA ELECTRIC Co. yesterday denied allegations that it was in an "alliance" with the government to seal a supply deal with YNN Pacific Consortium Inc., the winning bidder for the 600-megawatt (MW) Masinloc coal-fired power plant in Zambales.

According to militant groups, the government, in an effort to salvage the Masinloc transaction, was allegedly negotiating a deal with Meralco that would entail a power supply contract between YNN and the distribution utility.

In exchange, Meralco would receive several concessions, including the Energy

Regulatory Commission's approval of its pending 14.76 centavos-per-kilowatt-hour rate hike petition, and the favorable settlement of its dispute with the National Power Corp. over a 10-year supply deal that lapsed in 2004.

Quoting his sources, Bagong Alyansang Makabayan secretary general Renato Reyes Jr. said that during President Macapagal-Arroyo's recent trip to Spain, she and Meralco chair Manuel Lopez met with officials of Meralco shareholder Union Fenosa to convince them to allow the power distributor to enter into a supply deal with YNN.

The Spanish conglomerate allegedly opposed the deal, Reyes said.

But Meralco vice president for corporate communication Elpi Cuna denied there was such an agreement between Lopez and the government.

"We would like to make it clear that whatever decision Meralco comes up with is a collective decision of the board of directors, and not of Mr. Lopez alone," Cuna said in a statement yesterday. "We would like to assure all concerned parties that Meralco will definitely not compromise the interest of its customers."

"As a corporate entity, we see no fault in doing whatever we can, within legal means, to help the government, the electric power industry and our customers to realize a

lower electricity cost."

Malaysian conglomerate Ranhill Berhad, YNN's new financier, agreed to buy out its YNN partners for \$8 million, as well as assume the payment of the \$227-million down payment for the Masinloc plant.

But for the Masinloc deal to push through, Ranhill required that a supply deal with Meralco be hammered out.

The deal was never finalized, prompting the Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corp. to forfeit the \$14-million performance bond YNN had put up for the plant.

YNN still has up to Aug. 6 to remit the down payment and keep the deal alive. The bond, however, will remain forfeited.

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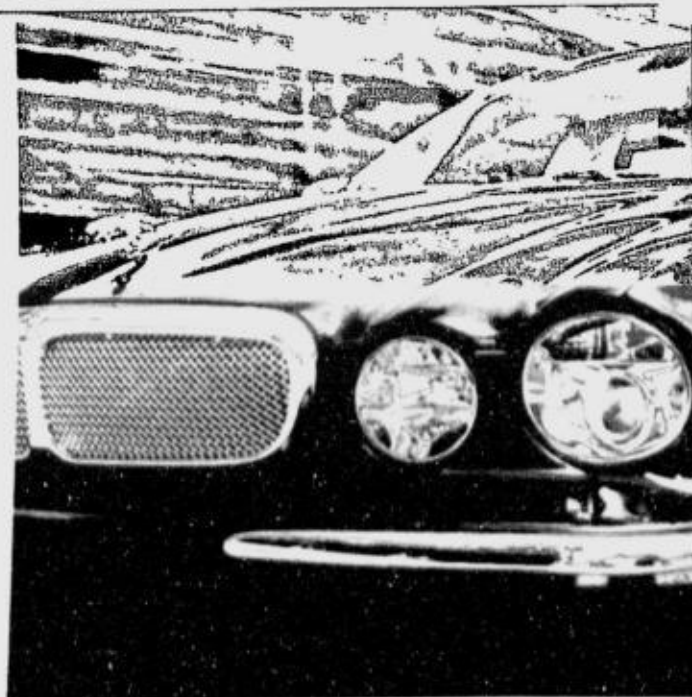
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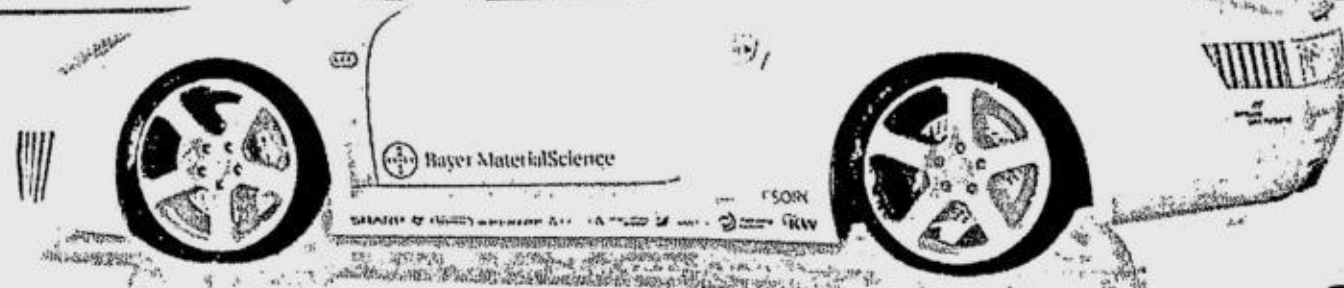
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ALTHOUGH THE ZAZEN is just a concept, expect a number of innovations and technologies employed to find its way in future car models

MOTORS

Editor Cesar D. Mangawang



FUTURE DIRECTIONS IN AUTOMOTIVES

High-tech plastic in cars

By Charles E. Buban

THIS YEAR'S Geneva International Motor Show in Switzerland debuts a rather fascinating concept car called zaZen, a Porsche Carrera-based coupé developed by Swiss automotive design specialist, Rinspeed.

What makes zaZen interesting is not just its name (which literally means seated meditation) or its powerful specs (a 360 horsepower, 3.9-liter engine that catapults the two-seater from zero to

100 kph in just 4.8 seconds) but also the high-tech plastic material used extensively in the car.

If this is the automobile of the future, then we would soon be driving cars made mostly of plastic, that is, a very advanced form of plastic called Makrolon polycarbonate.

"Makrolon is one of the most versatile and dynamic materials ever developed. With its high-impact strength, light weight, flexibility, shatter resistance and its ability to be formed and made either transparent or opaque, Makrolon makes a better and safer substitute for glass," described Dorothy Claro,

HIGH-TECH/B2-3

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MOTORING

Gov't ally; Isuzu hybrid

5 Best Driving Roads, Summer 2006

IN JUST 12 YEARS OR SO YEARS OR so, Petron has remitted a whopping total of P6 billion to PNOC (Philippine National Oil Co.). What a feat! That's an average of P500 million a year since Petron was privatized in 1994. Statistics now show that Petron is one of the strongest financial allies of the cash-strapped government.

Only days ago, Petron, the runaway leader in the oil business and chaired by Nicasio Alcantara, gave a dividend payout of P375 million to PNOC.

Just last year alone, Petron had a net income of P6.04 billion, its best showing in 10 years.

Industry experts attributed the windfalls largely to Petron's various operational improvements and healthy exports opuses.

The PNOC has a 40 percent stake in Petron, the same stake that Saudi Aramco owns in the oil firm. The remaining 20 percent is owned by the public.

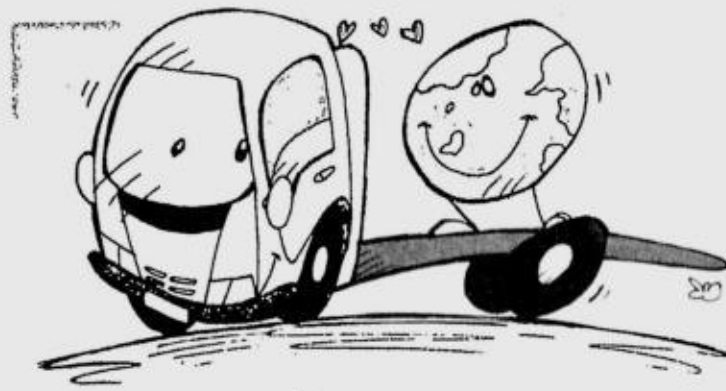
I had raised here the issue a while back about Petron's claim of being more fuel efficient than its rivals.

Specifically, I refer to that TV ad featuring the legendary motor sports racer Pocholo Ramirez and his son driving the Honda Jazz from Pagudpud up North to Bicol down South. The ad showed the Ramirezes consume less gas driving the Petron-fueled Jazz.

The piece drew reactions from some quarters in the industry, including hostile howls bordering on accusations of "untruth in advertising." They went a step farther by asking advertising guardians to have the TV ad pulled out from the airwaves.

They were unsuccessful though as Petron, in no time, proved the truthfulness of its claim.

Today we see the Petron TV ad being run regularly, particularly in major sporting events like the recent World Cup of football, not to mention PBA games.



FULL TANK

Al Mendoza

Indeed when you are up there, they throw all kinds of mud at you. You just have to bear and grin it. The price of being No. 1.

If you think it's only in the Philippines that car sales are down, think again.

The United States also suffers from declining car sales.

Last month alone, car sales in the world's most powerful country dropped 10.5 percent.

Among the world's giant automakers, only Toyota was the one bright spot, continuing its string of monthly sales increases with a 14.4 percent from last year's performance.

General Motors, the industry world leader, plunged 2.5 percent from its record June 2005 even as US-based automakers saw their collective sales drop 18.7 percent in June.

John O'Dell of the Los Angeles Times said the sharp drop happened because "many motorists apparently remained wary of continued high gasoline prices and waited for a new round of steep discounting."

If you still don't know it, the US is

also the bargain bazaar, if not the "sale capital," of the world.

GM, in a bid to rebound from its terrible backslide in 2005 resulting in a \$10.6-billion loss fueled by falling sales, is seriously considering shacking up with Renault and Nissan. This global alliance could result in production of more than 15 million vehicles a year, or about a quarter of all new cars and trucks sold worldwide.

If that should happen, the face of motoring business will never be the same again.

Here's good news from Isuzu.

The No. 1 diesel engine company in the world is also now into hybrid, that wondrous vehicle technology designed for environment conservation and reducing too-much dependence on fossil fuel.

The famous Isuzu Elf truck is now hybrid-powered. Although it is currently only available in Japan, hopefully, it would soon be brought here by Isuzu Philippines Corp. through its president and CEO, Yoshifumi Komura.

I feel like every truck-dependent businessman is dying to own one, Komura-san.

QUOTE ME. Check that wiper. It can save your life on a rainy night.

E-mail comments to menju@pltdsl.net.

(Last of two parts)

DRIVING UP INTO THE MOUNTAINS IS A vacation ritual I remember from the earliest years of my youth. Sure, school was out, something to enthusiastically celebrate in itself but my true joy came from these road trips into the clouds.

These long drives were welcomed with equal amounts of excitement and wonder, knowing that everything on the other end of half a day's travel would be crisp, perfumed by pine and cooler than the cloying cauldron of heat that is Manila at the mercy of the summer's sun. Everything just promised to be different, I guess, once the road began to climb upward and out of view.

Learning experience

Peering out of the windows as a child while a car ascends a zigzag is a learning experience of sorts. One begins to see marked changes as you gain elevation: the slate and charcoal of the boulders, the deep and vibrant greens of the moss covering almost everything, and the occasional waterfall patiently cutting through stone.

Your body also marks the march of said elevation; your eardrums feel like they want to explode, excited breathing becomes a little more labored and the cooling of one's sweat actually becomes a pleasant experience. I could not wait for these signs to manifest themselves, as I knew that meant the destination could soon just be over the next crest or possibly around the next switchback.

Later on in life, I would begin to do the driving myself; still excited because of all the memories that have come with traveling up mountains but more now because I now appreciate actually negotiating the mountain roads as much as arriving at the destination. It is logical therefore that the two best driving roads of the past summer involve ascents to altitude and the inevitable tango and tussle with twisty tarmac that come with such classic climbs.

Ford event

The very first long road trip of this past working summer was a Ford event that brought me to Banawe, Ifugao for the first time. The approach to the tight, tangled route

MY DRIFT

Andre Palma



that leads to the sleepy mountain town and its fabled rice terraces begins with slight rises and turns through tree-lined, two-lane concrete roads. These open up into a paved section straddling a small canyon with impressive white stone cliffs dominating the scenery. Stop along this wide section of road and take in the views, while the rest of the drive to Banawe is also quite picturesque, it would be best to concentrate on the road if any real fun is to be had.

Once across the canyon, via a narrow steel bridge, the driving begins in earnest. It is probably just my imagination, but it seems that the corners get deeper and the straights become shorter as one approaches the destination. Road surfaces are not the most immaculate, with a lot of gravel, mud and loam peppering the way, but this only adds to the excitement. Remember to back off once signs of civilization begin to crop up on the roadside, not just for safety's sake, but do so as the terraces come into view soon after the town begins. Be patient with the local traffic in and around the area; overloaded jeepneys are commonplace and struggle with the steepness of some sections.

Kennon uphill

The best driving road accolade therefore goes to a well-known but oft-misunderstood climb: the Kennon Uphill. I'm sure many have written off this gem of coiled tarmac as both too congested and too dangerous. Sure, there are times that this old approach to Baguio resembles a long procession in honor of the gods of patience and tolerance. There are also times when the inevitable landslide and errant bus become lethal in nature. Fine, the road is not perfect but there are instances where one can find himself/herself practically alone on this beautifully technical piece of

5 BEST/B2-3

MOTORSCOPE

Solutions for the energy crisis

TRANSPORT 2006: MOTORTRENDS AND FILIPINO INVENTIONS has "solutions for the energy crisis" as its working theme, and is slated from July 21 to 23 at the Central Plaza, Market! Market! Fort Bonifacio Global City, Taguig, Metro Manila.

It will showcase the finest and most distinct cars in the industry, cars with great style and practical sense. Check out an alternative to LPG-fed stoves and other fuel saving devices by Filipino inventors. Raffle prizes to be won are Khaos Super Turbo Chargers, car accessories and hotel accommodations. There will be seminars and forums on alternative fuels as well as test drives and car-care tips.

The event is supported by United States Agency for International Development (USAID) (Sustainable Energy Development Program), United States Department of Energy, Technology Application and Promotion Institute, Department of Science and Technology, and Department of Energy, Hotwire TV and Magazine, 97.1 dwLS FM, Magic 89.9 dwTM.

4 vehicles at stake in Toyota promo

TOYOTA CELEBRATES ITS LEADERSHIP POSITION FOR THE FIRST semester of 2006 via Toyota Value Certificates (TVCs), lowest down payment of 10 percent and a grand customer raffle promo with four vehicles at stake.

TVCs are certificates with a specific amount given to customers who purchase the Innova, Altis and Vios. They can be used for accessories, chattel mortgage, LTO registration, or cash discount. The Innova is being offered at P763,000 for the low-end J variant and at P1,064,000 for the high-end G variant. For all variants of the Innova, a total TVC worth P30,000 is given. The Altis G, E and J variants have suggested retail price (SRP) ranging from P723,000 to P990,000. With Toyota's July promo, customers can get up to P40,000 worth of TVCs. The sporty Altis (S), on the other hand, has a TVC value of P60,000.

The 2006 Department of Energy (DOE)'s most fuel-efficient car Vios (G and E) variants are priced from P615,000 to P722,000. The Vios G TVC amounts to P25,000 while E variant is offered at P20,000 TVC.

RP car touring champ aspirant

JEFF BORJA OF BOSCH-DARKSIDE RACING, AFTER PREVIOUSLY qualifying only seventh on the 11-car grid, finished third and fourth respectively in races three and four.

This was during the second round of the Philippine Touring Car Championship (PTCC) Group 3, C division. He earned 18 points for a total of 38 points. That puts him in third, and behind the velocity team's two drivers.

The race was marred by a heavy two-car collision during the first lap. It was during this time that race marshals ordered a restart and Borja worked his way up to finish on the podium before the checkered flag.

Jeff is being supported by Bosch Good Year Racing, Castrol, H&R Springs, A-Toy Body Kits, Nodalo's, Puma, Kicker Audio, PIE iPod adapter, Silverwind Wheels, Spyder Eyewear, Aquachill, Victoria Court, Uno Magazine and Tech & Tuner Magazine.



NISSAN SUPPORTS TYSON SY

Nissan Motor Philippines Inc. formalized its support for the "Prince of Philippine racing" Tyson Sy (3rd from left), during contract signing ceremonies held in Alabang. Tyson, who now is the ambassador of NMPI, currently leads the driver's championship standings in the Asian Formula 3 cup. From left are NMPI AYP for Marketing and Sales Dennis Chang, NMPI president Loman Lee and NMPI senior manager for Market and Product Planning Raymond Tribdino.



CARLOS Palad, public affairs officer of Chemrez, loads bio-diesel additives to Nestlé vehicle during a vehicle free emission testing.



BOSCH emission technicians view the results of a Nestlé supplier vehicle whose emission level was tested.

Jumpstarting the good life: clean engines, clean fuel for clean air

FOR NESTLÉ PHILIPPINES INC., "THE GOOD Life" means more than just good nutrition. It is an institutional platform for social responsibility, not just among its employees, but also among its suppliers and other partners. Through its social responsibility initiatives, Nestlé hopes to be able to promote a good life for every Filipino and for everyone whose lives they are able to touch.

This mission was the guidepost when Nestlé embarked on a joint activity with the Energy and Clean Air Project (Ecap) of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Robert Bosch Inc. (Philippines) and Chemrez Inc. Called "Jumpstarting the good life: clean engines and clean fuel for clean air," the activity was held recently at Nestlé's Ice Cream & Chilled Dairy Division on Aurora Boulevard, Quezon City.

Forum

The activity featured a forum where problems confronting the country's air quality

were shared by Carmelita M. Passe of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and Josephine Mangila, Communications Specialist of Ecap. Also present as resource persons were Jess G. Reyes and Val Q. Dizon of Nestlé, Carlos Antonio Palad of Chemrez Inc. who discussed the economic and environmental impacts of using alternative fuels, particularly biodiesel, and Marte Rivera of Robert Bosch Inc. who discussed proper vehicle maintenance.

As a joint initiative, the activity underscored the importance of generating multi-sectoral support in efforts to address the issues of air quality management. The forum also discussed the importance of proper vehicle maintenance and use of alternative fuels for cleaner air among the factory's fleet drivers and employees.

Emission tests

A key feature of the activity involved the conduct of a free and voluntary emission test-

ing among the service fleet of Nestlé, including its suppliers and employees. Day-long emissions tests were conducted via a Bosch BEA350 and RTM430 Opacimeter diesel and Gas analyzer, capable of detecting carbon levels and toxicity in vehicle emissions. A bio-diesel demonstration was also conducted by Chemrez, which provided 36 liters of bio-diesel additive samples.

"This joint initiative, which coincided with the Environment Month, is in line with Nestlé's thrust to bring The Good Life among Filipinos," said Jess Reyes, Nestlé head for safety, health and environment. "We are honored to cooperate with socially responsible private corporations such as Chemrez and Bosch. Nestlé views this as the beginning of a deeper, more significant cooperation with Ecap and its partners, toward a successful advocacy for sustainable energy and cleaner air. This activity is one among the numerous activities Nestlé is undertaking as part of the institution's long-running "Greening the Supply Chain" outreach and education program.

Environment month

The participation of Robert Bosch Inc. and Chemrez, which have been participating in numerous Ecap activities to promote clean air, is a fine example of an inter-corporate initiative that seeks to address a major issue facing the country today. In recognizing this effort, Mangila of Ecap said, "The private sector enjoys the distinct advantage of serving as industry examples in promoting the nationwide campaign for sustainable energy and clean air. Ecap lauds the efforts of Nestlé, Bosch and Chemrez as a fine example of meaningful private sector cooperation in promoting cleaner air for present and future generations of Filipinos. This initiative is clearly not only an agenda for corporate citizenship, but also a social investment.



NESTLÉ employees attend a forum that promotes the importance of proper vehicle maintenance and use of alternative fuels for cleaner air.

THE ZAZEN features a bright orange interior seat shells made of Makrolon, one as well as other Bayer MaterialScience invention.

High-tech plastic

Bayer (South East Asia) corporate communications head.

Germany-based Bayer Group owns the company Bayer MaterialScience, which in cooperation with Rinspeed produced the concept vehicle.

Largest producer

Bayer MaterialScience is the world's largest producer of Makrolon.

Bayer invented the polycarbonate in 1953 and has continued to work with its customers to develop many innovative applications from automotive headlamp lens,

Moreover, the teardrop-shaped roof also incorporated electroluminescent technology for interior ambience lighting. The new technology, called Exatec 900el, allows drivers and passengers to adjust the brightness of interior lighting to suit their individual needs.

"With the zaZen, Rinspeed and Bayer MaterialScience have explored a new route in automobile development. Although the zaZen is just a concept, I expect that a number of innovations and technologies used in the car will find its way in future car models," hoped Claro.

CDs and DVDs, medical devices and shatter-resistant optical lenses to name just a few.

Indeed, Makrolon is a designer's dream come true and for Frank Rinderknecht, who gave zaZen its unique form, it would have been difficult if not impossible had they used glass.

The zaZen features a smoothly contoured, transparent, one-piece roof dome made of high-tech Makrolon. The teardrop-shaped dome runs down to the car's belt line.

"Makrolon is half the weight of glass. This gives zaZen a much lower center of gravity and thus, less prone to rollovers," explained Claro.

Moreover, Makrolon is 200 times stronger than glass and provides 250 times the impact strength of glass.

Technical revolution

The zaZen also embraces a technical revolution in car manufacture with the transparent back light being turned into a luminous holographic area.

Implanted at the rear of the massive dome is a holographic third brake light that completely vanishes when not illuminated.

Five . . .

From page B2

public highway.

Being blessed with such an experience is an epiphany of sorts, especially for those of us who like to drive. The beauty of Kennon is in its variety. There are times that the road itself is made just to frustrate drivers; being unable to prepare for the next turn will definitely take the flow out of any attempted ascent. Yet, just as one wants to give up and crawl—dejected to the top—the way opens up, giving the driver a clear view of the next two corners and a very good hint of a third—allowing one to pile on the momentum and clean a section at speed. Link up any number of these rhythm sections together and the road's true value becomes clear; the result is pure driving bliss. Anything that brings this much pleasure, is truly a good thing.

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CR-V 2WD 5P MT	P999,000	P149,850	P19,480	P499,500	P11,366

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MOTERING

Shock in the auto industry

A SHOCK WAVE STUNNED THE global automobile industry early this month when the international media reported a proposal for General Motors to join the alliance of Nissan Motor Co. and Renault SA. by allowing the two to acquire 20 percent of its equity. The deal, broached by GM's largest individual shareholder, Kirk Kerkorian, would create an auto giant producing 15 million motor vehicles a year, about a quarter of the global market and almost twice the eight million output of Toyota Motor Corp., the world's No. 2 automaker which is expected to overtake GM as No. 1 any time soon.

Kerkorian believes that the proposed alliance would save GM, Renault and Nissan billions of dollars by sharing engineering, purchasing and manufacturing costs for engines and the basic components and vehicle platforms of automobiles.

Top honchos

Aside from the substantial synergies and cost savings projected, Kerkorian's gambit focuses attention on the top honchos of the companies concerned. Carlos Ghosn, a Frenchman who was born in Brazil of Lebanese parents, is 52 while Rick Wagoner, chair and CEO of General Motors, is 53. After acquiring a 44 percent stake in Nissan in 1999, Renault sent Ghosn to run Nissan while Wagoner became CEO of GM a year later. But the similarities end there.

At the time Ghosn took over Nissan, it was nearly bankrupt and saddled with US\$20 billion in debt. In fact, Robert Lutz, former vice chair of Chrysler who, ironically enough, later became vice chair of GM, predicted

ON THE ROAD

Aida Sevilla-Mendoza



that anyone who bought Nissan might as well load billions of dollars in gold bullion on board a ship and sink it in the ocean.

Ghosn defied Lutz's prediction. He slashed costs by closing assembly plants and firing thousands of employees (thus ending the lifetime employment tradition in Japan), sold off non-core businesses, dissolved the keiretsu corporate welfare system of Nissan's interlocking network of suppliers and affiliates, persuaded parts makers to help reduce Nissan's purchasing costs by 20 percent and used the savings and proceeds from the sale of companies to reduce the massive debt. He restored morale, set financial targets and vowed to resign if he failed to meet them.

Met goals

Ghosn met his goals, taking Nissan from a \$5.6 billion loss in 2000 to a \$2.7 billion profit in 2001. A lean, refocused Nissan revamped its product line and successfully launched new, boldly styled vehicles like the Murano SUV and Infiniti G35 sports car. Sales and profits soared and by 2005, Nissan was one of the most profitable companies in the industry with its share price tripling. And although as the first non-Japanese to head Nissan

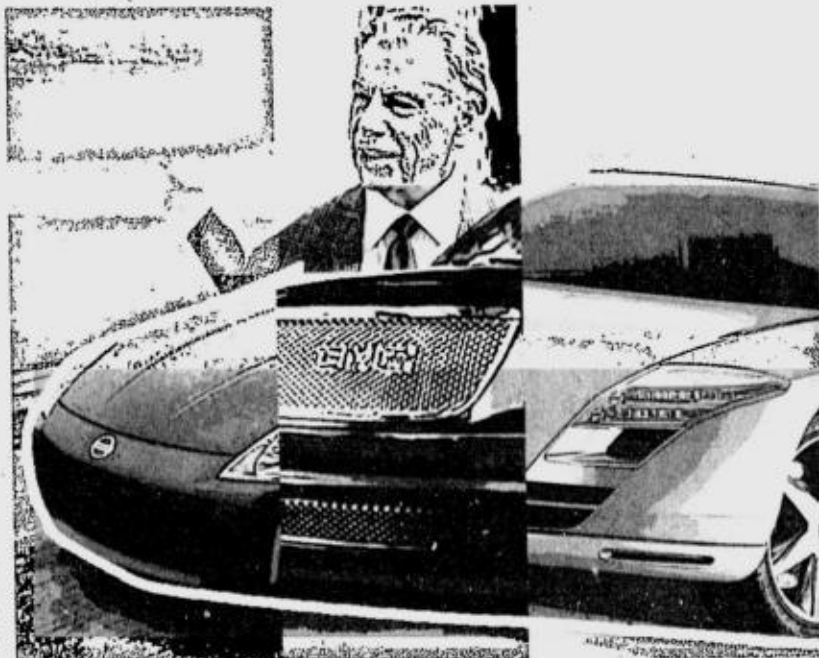
he broke the mold and blew up time-honored taboos, Ghosn became a folk hero and the subject of a series of manga comic books in Japan. With his success in Tokyo, Ghosn was promoted to CEO of Renault in Paris last year although he remains in charge of Nissan.

Rick Wagoner, on the other hand, is more of a conservative team player than an iconoclast or icon of radical change. He has worked for GM since 1977 and in 1999, the year before he took over, GM earned a record \$5.7 billion. In June 2000, when he became CEO, GM's stock was nearly \$70 a share.

\$10.6-B loss

But it's all been downhill for GM since then. GM had the capacity to produce more cars than it could sell. Burdened with the highest health, pension and labor costs in the industry and steadily losing market share to foreign competitors with more fuel-efficient cars amid soaring oil prices, GM posted a \$10.6-billion loss last year and by December 2005 its stock had plunged below \$19 a share, a drop of more than 70 percent.

Wagoner is implementing a turnaround plan anchored on the closure of 12 plants by 2008, the elimination of 30,000 jobs in the United States, a deal with the United Auto Workers union to have retirees pay a bigger share of their health care costs and the reorganization of GM's global product development and purchasing structure. The news last month that 35,000 GM workers have accepted the early retirement and buyout packages means that GM has reached its goal of trimming jobs two years ahead of schedule. This, plus the proposed alliance with Nissan-Renault,



boosted GM stock to more than \$29 a share.

In the first quarter this year, GM reported a modest profit but it was due to an accounting change and cash flow remained negative. GM's debt ratings remain in "deep junk" territory. Despite these, Wagoner won a public vote of confidence from GM's board and expressions of support from the company's dealers last April.

Revolutionary approach

However, the vote of confidence was not unanimous. Jerome York, Kerkorian's representative on the board, said that GM needs Ghosn's leadership style and personality more than Wagoner's measured steps to preserve as much of the status quo as possible while moving the business back

into the black. Kerkorian wants a revolutionary, high risk/high reward approach, not Wagoner's incremental, low risk/low reward approach. At 89, the billionaire who paid \$1.6 billion or \$30 a share for his 9.9 percent stake in GM hopes to look back on his investment as successful in a year or two—not 10 years.

There are many arguments for and against a GM-Renault-Nissan alliance that would reshape the global auto industry. But in the last analysis, it may all boil down to whether the differences in management style, corporate culture and personality of Carlos Ghosn and Rick Wagoner can be meshed successfully—if Ghosn doesn't take over Wagoner's job. That is what makes the proposed mega-merger so engrossing. (With reports from International Herald Tribune, The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal Asia, Bloomberg News, Associated Press and The Los Angeles Times)

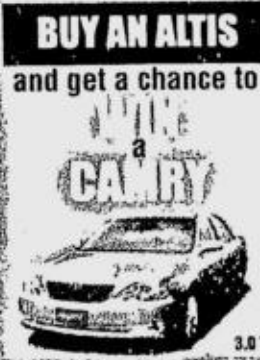
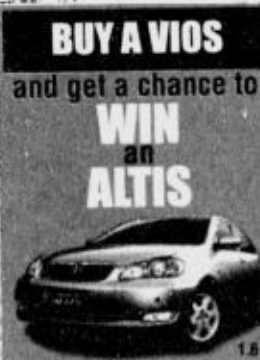


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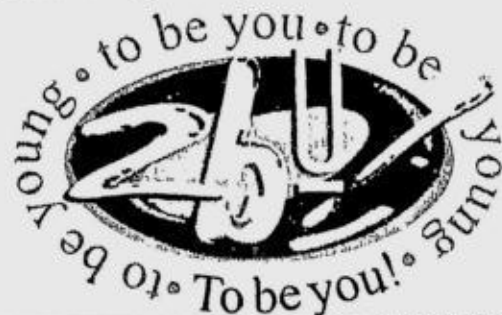
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LIFESTYLE

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Chief of Correspondents Pam Pastor

Campus color-coding

Go beyond
smearing
red (or
green, blue,
or yellow)
stripes on
your
cheeks

Text by Bianca Consunji

2bU! Correspondent

Photos by Sara Black and Ocs Alvarez

LOOKING FOR A NEW WAY to pledge allegiance to your school during UAAP pep rallies and games?

Instead of the usual color-coded shirts, foam fingers and flags, wear your school colors on your face—with real makeup, not skin-damaging paint that should be kept strictly in art class (many of these paints contain toxic ingredients, and are often hard to remove—you wouldn't want to use paint thinner on your face, would you?)

Go beyond smearing red (or green, blue, or yellow) stripes on your cheeks. Make your school-themed makeup a little more avant-garde by blending colorful eye shadows on your lids, cheekbones, and undereye area.

Try a pair of colored false lashes, or draw

the school mascot on your back with a bit of liquid liner. Always try to use hypoallergenic makeup, so the pigment won't mix with your sweat and irritate your skin, which could lead to breakouts. As UAAP games are usually held in crowded stadiums, the combination of sweat and acne-causing makeup could only spell future headaches for your skin.

So go out and root for your favorite teams—and remember, men's basketball isn't the only UAAP sport, so support your school's female athletes and lesser-known sports as well.

Unfortunately, due to yet another athletic scandal, the De La Salle University is not included in this year's UAAP lineup. However, true-blue La Sallites might want to show support for their school and their athletes (especially those who had nothing to do with the cheating) by wearing their school colors. The teams will definitely appreciate it.

E-mail the author at biancaconsunji@yahoo.com

CAMPUS/ C2

UAAP colors

The main colors of the UAAP include blue, green, red, yellow, maroon and white.

MAKEUP BY KENG ZULUETA
MODEL: DAPHNE GÁLVEZ OF CALCARRIES

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Adamson University

MAKEUP: CLAIRE DIKNO OF SHU UEMURA
HAIR: RICKY DIKNO USING KIEHL'S STYLIST SERIES
MODEL: MAAN ZULAYBAR

Pep-rally pretty:

Claire created falcon-like eyes by using various shades of blue to contour Maan's eyes. She finished off with pink blush, just-bitten pink lips, and a pair of blue lashes on the lower eye area.

Make this wearable:

Blue, like green, makes dark-brown eyes pop—use a bright shade of blue to line your eyes, and use either peach or pink blush and lip colors with it, as bronze has a tendency to look muddy next to bright blue.



SHU UEMURA BIRTHDAY BOUTIQUE PALETTE AND LIP PENCIL

University of the East

Pep-rally pretty: You can replicate Xeng's makeup by using creamy red lipstick and white eyeshadow as an eye-safe alternative to face paint.

Make this wearable:

Since red is a very strong color, limit it to one area on your face. Cherry-red lip gloss or light-red blush looks healthy on yellowish Asian skin, so give it a try.



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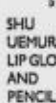
MAKEUP: XENG ZULUETA OF SHU UEMURA
HAIR: RICKY DIKNO USING KIEHL'S STYLIST SERIES
MODEL: STEPHANIE ANG

University of Santo Tomas**Pep-rally pretty:**

Claire Dikno used yellow and peach from this year's Shu Uemura Birthday Boutique palette to come up with gradations of warm color, and drew black tiger stripes with liquid liner.

Make this wearable:

Choose a pastel-yellow color, mix it with light brown on the creases, and line your eyes with a little black liner, staying close to your lash line. Match it with neutral blush and lip color.



SHU UEMURA LIP GLOSS AND PENCIL



MAKEUP: CLAIRE DIKNO OF SHU UEMURA
HAIR: RICKY DIKNO USING KIEHL'S STYLIST SERIES
MODEL: MAAN ZULAYBAR

Campus color-coding**Ateneo de Manila University****Pep-rally pretty:**

Show your support for the Blue Eagles with aquamarine blue and white colors on your eyes. Try L'Oreal's Color Appeal Trio in Midnight Blue.

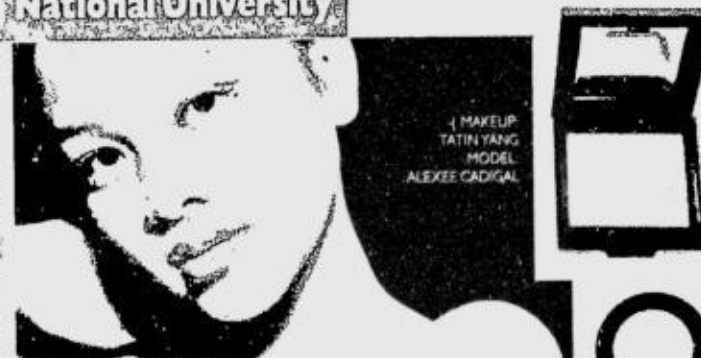
Make this wearable:

Smear a bit of iridescent white mousse on your lids and line your eyes with a bright shade of blue. Pair with a light-pink color to set off the blue.



MAKEUP: TATIN YANG
MODEL: KAT VILLANUEVA

MAC LIQUIDLAST EYELINER IN AQUALINE, L'OREAL COLOR APPEAL TRIO IN MIDNIGHT BLUE, MAYBELLINE DREAM MOUSSE

National University

MAKEUP: TATIN YANG
MODEL: ALEXEE CADIGAL

Pep-rally pretty:

Tatin used blue and gold, NU's colors, to make bright dots of color on Alexee's eyes. Want to wear this to your games? Combine sky-blue eye color with gold pigment for a bright pop of color on your lids.

Make this wearable:

Instead of bright thumbprints of color, you can again use liner on your eyes. Pair with neutral blush to avoid looking like a clown.

LAURA MERCIER BLUSH IN CRUSHED HAZELNUT, MAC EYeshadow IN OVERSHADOWED



HAIR AND MAKEUP: JIGS MAYUGA OF L'OREAL
MODEL: CLAUDE VILLACORTA

L'OREAL BLUSH DELICE IN ICED CINNAMON, MAC LIQUIDLAST LINER IN AUTO-ORANGE AND GREENPLAY

Pep-rally pretty:

Jigs went for a wearable but slightly avant-garde look on Claude by shading her eyelids with rich gold pigment, and lined her lower eye area with a bright-green liner.

Make this wearable:

Tone it down for school by nixing the shadow and just line your eyes with copper and green. Try using a color that can double as eye shadow and blush, such as L'Oreal Blush Delice in Iced Cinnamon.

2BU! THERMOMETER**Two movies, hot snacks, Chinese meals and other things that rock our world****LOVEWRECKED.**

We love Amanda Bynes. She's young, she's pretty, she's fun, she's wholesome. She tells us that you don't have to go wild for people to take notice. And we enjoyed her latest movie, too. It was fun and funny, great for dates or a night out with your favorite girlfriends. Keep your eyes open for Jamie Lynn Discara's hilarious take on evil Alexis.



UAAP. Although people have said the UAAP opening was eclipsed by World Cup fever, it's time to get into the games once again.



UNITED 93. The movie was gripping, chilling, touching. At times, it was difficult to watch. But we did and we're glad we did because it's a reminder of things we must never forget. Visit the website at www.united93movie.com



DIP IT GOOD. A recent trip to the supermarket led to a great discovery: E-Aji Dip-Snax from San Miguel Corp. What makes E-Aji really good? Each bag comes with its own yummy dip. There are different kinds of chips paired with different types of dip—Fries with Totally Sweet Chili Dip, Nachos with Fiesta Salsa Dip, Nachos with Extremely Cheesy Garlic Dip, Nachos with Groovy Mayo BBQ Dip, Ridges with Totally Sweet Chili Dip—but our favorites are Fries with Extremely Cheesy Garlic Dip and Ridges with Cheddar Cheese Dip. And the best part, each bag costs only about P15.



KWANG TONG'S SET MEALS. Seriously, we can eat there every day. We looove Kwang Tong's set meals. A minimum of four people can enjoy delicious dishes for unbelievably low prices. The P99 set (that's P99 per person) meal includes Yang Chow Fried Rice, Birthday Noodles, Sizzling Tofu, Kangkong with Garlic, Sweet and Sour Pork, and Buchi for dessert. The P199 meal includes Yang Chow Fried Rice, Fish Fillet with Lemon Sauce, Ho To Tai Soup, Crispy Fried Chicken, Bihon Gulsado, String Beans with Minced Pork and Buchi. There are meals for P149 and P250 as well.

WEAR YOUR PRIDE. ODM invites you to wear your Pinoy Pride with a new Limited Edition watch designed by Tim Yap. The watch features an image of the Philippine islands and the words Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao on the strap and a scrolling message on its digital screen: "I am super proud to be Pinoy!" The watch was launched in Cannes, Paris, Tokyo and, of course, Manila and has been worn by D&G's Stefano Gabana, French Vogue editor Carine Roitfeld, Baron Philippe and Philippine de Rothschild, Takashi Murakami and Lesley Mobo. The watch will be available today at L. Timestudio branches and selected specialty stores.



THE WORLD CUP. It's hot because the last games were really exciting and they kept us up all night. It's cold because it's over now. Do we really have to wait four years for hot kicking action again?



NORTH KOREA'S MISSILE TESTS. Are they crazy?

DREAMS will come true on Saturday, when Fully Booked, in cooperation with award-winning author Neil Gaiman, presents The First Philippine Graphic Fiction Awards Night at the Rockwell Tent. Gates open at 10 a.m. with a special exhibition of the shortlisted entries. The winners of the prose fiction and comics categories will be announced at 7 p.m. Get ready with your original masks—the best ones will win prizes. Fans may also cast their ballots for People's Choice on July 15. See you there!

THE PLANE CRASH IN SIBERIA. They almost made it. They landed but skidded. We feel for the victims and their families.

University of the Philippines

SHU UEMURA SLANT RED LASHES AND EYESHADOW



MAKEUP:
XENG ZULUETA
OF SHU UEMURA
HAIR: RICKY DIKONO
USING KIEHL'S
STYLIST SERIES
MODEL: MYN REYES

Pep-rally pretty:

Xeng Zulueta combined UP's three colors—maroon, green and white—in this look by applying maroon eye-shadow under the eye area, and paired it with metallic green and white lashes.

Make this wearable:

Dab a bit of dark-red lip tint on your lips and cheeks for everyday use. If you like walking on the wild side, wear maroon-colored lashes to a party or even to school.

De La Salle University

Wear your colors to school:

Jigs Mayuga went for an understated yet eye-catching look by mixing olive green eye-shadow and white liner on Abbie's eyes. He matched it with soft peach blush and flesh-toned lip color to balance the strong eyes. Complement your green eyes with a fresh scent such as Origins Ginger with a Twist cocktail.



ORIGINS GINGER WITH A TWIST L'OREAL EYESHADOW IN PALM TREE GREEN

HAIR AND MAKEUP: JIGS MAYUGA OF L'OREAL
MODEL: ABBIE ALMASCO



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SEE HOW WELL YOU CAN MIX ROCK AND ACOUSTIC. BATTLE IT OUT WITH OTHER BANDS AT THE ROCKOUSTIC MANIA TUGTOG MO! COMPETITION

MECHANICS

Open to all Filipino amateur bands, with no previously released recorded material.

To join:

1) Enclose the ff. in a brown envelope:

- a. Information on the band and members:
 - Band name
 - Name and age of band members
 - Addresses, e-mail addresses and contact numbers of band members
 - Brief band history
 - Photo of the band

b. A clearly recorded demo tape or CD containing:

- One (1) original Rockoustic composition for Juicy Fruit
- Your band's performance of the Rockoustic song "Nakakabaliw" by Pupil and Barbie Almalbis.

Log on to www.rockousticmania.com to listen to the song.

* All demo tapes or CDs must be labeled with your band's name and song titles.

* All demo tapes must not exceed 10 minutes.

c. Typed lyrics of the band's original composition

d. Any of the ff. Juicy Fruit wrapper combinations per band:

- 10 pcs. Juicy Fruit Jumbo
- 6 pcs. Juicy Fruit Pellet 2's
- 1 pack Juicy Fruit Stick 7's
- 1 pack Juicy Fruit Pellet 10's

2) Drop or mail entries to any of the ff.:

- PO Box No. 2541, Quezon City
- any 7-Eleven outlet
- any Star Mart outlet
- any LBC outlet
- Or log on to www.rockousticmania.com to submit entries online.

To win:

1) Submission of entries is from June 5 to Sept. 2, 2006. All eligible entries will be screened by a panel of judges.

2) There will be three separate elimination rounds which will each screen ten qualified bands:

Baguio | Sept. 30 | Cebu | Oct. 7 | Manila | Oct. 14

The pay-off:

1) Prizes for each of the elimination rounds are as follows:

1st place | P15,000 | 2nd place | P10,000 | 3rd place | P5,000

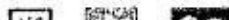
2) The three 1st place winners from each of the elimination rounds in Baguio, Cebu, and Manila will serve as finalists and will perform their original composition on Myx Bandarito. Viewers can participate in the selection of the Grand Winner through SMS voting and online polls, which will comprise 20% of their score during the grand finals in the Grand Rockoustic Event.

3) The three finalists will compete in the Grand Rockoustic Event on Nov. 10, 2006.

4) Prizes on the grand finals are:

Grand Winner | P50,000 | Runners-up | P20,000 each

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Per DCM-BF AD Permit No. 0378 Series of 2006



PRETTY polka. Wedges, P1,799



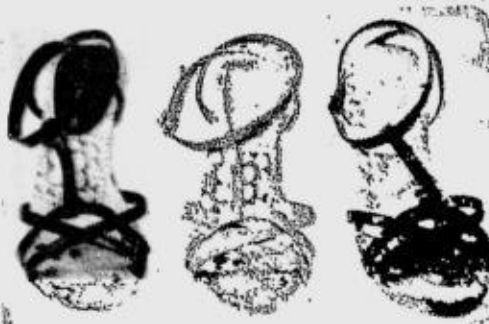
PAISLEY princess, P1,499



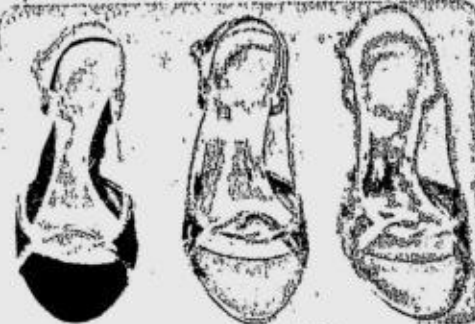
BUTTON overload, P1,899



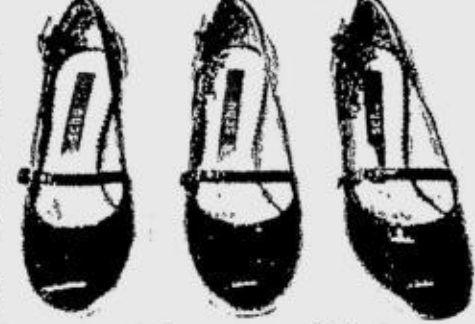
TIE ME up. Unbelievably sexy shoes, P1,799



PRINTS R Us, P1,999



SHOES that shine, P1,499



SCHOOLGIRL forever. Mary Janes, P1,899



FLOWER power, P1,599

Which shoe are you?

Pick a pair that fits your personality and it could be yours



RAD ribbons. P1,699



COMFORT comes first. Slides, P1,699



BUCKLE up, P1,599



FROM OFFICE to party, P1,599

Singapore shopping GALORE!

Swingaround SINGAPORE

By Pam Pastor
Photos by Romy Homillada

THINGS ARE GOING well for Schu, one of the Fashion Freaks' favorite shoe stores. Its Glorietta branch is now bigger and is newly renovated, with more space to serve the city's Schuholics.

It has also opened another store in Mall of Asia and celebrated its blessing with a sinful spread from Classic Confections.

Schu's colorful new collections are also another reason to celebrate. We can't get enough of the polka dot wedges, button-embellished shoes, ballet flats with ribbons, sexy pumps, flattering sandals and sparkly slides.

Schu wants to share its joy with 2bU! readers by giving away a pair of shoes—of your choice!

Here are five easy steps if you want to join Schu's Shoe Giveaway.

1. Check out Schu's current collections on this page.
2. Clip the article and encircle the shoe that best fits your personality.
3. Tell us—in 10 sentences or less—why you chose that shoe.
4. Seal the article, your essay and your personal information (name, age, school/office, contact info) in an envelope that would attract our attention.
5. Drop off your entries or mail



QUIRKY shoes are fun, P1,799



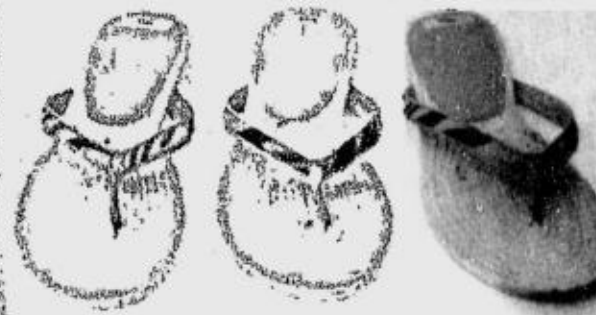
PEEP-A-BOO. Peep toe, P1,699

them to Schu's Shoe Giveaway c/o 2bU! Lifestyle Philippine Daily Inquirer Bldg., Chino Roces Ave. corner Yague and Mascarido Streets, Makati City. Entries should be in by July 20.

Schu has branches at Glorietta 3, Megamall, Shangri-La Plaza Mall, Robinsons Galleria and Mall of Asia. Visit the Schu blogs at <http://schushop.multiply.com>, <http://schushop.blogspot.com> and <http://schushop.spaces.msn.com>



BUTTONS are sexy, P1,899



ABACA thongs, P1,699

It's the annual Great Singapore Sale! Experience an 8-week-long shopping frenzy showcasing the hottest electronic gadgets. The nationwide gala of bargain prices and promos begins.

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LIFESTYLE



MOVE over "pogi rock" newbies. Sandwich's seasoned musicians still rock after almost seven years on the road.

Filling up on Sandwich

By Irene C. Perez

IS SANDWICH STILL "FILLING" enough after almost seven years on the road? Let's see: the band has four albums, hundreds of gigs, a new guitarist, three Friendster accounts and an e-group that averages a hundred messages per day—in various dialects, at that.

Sandwich recently released their fourth album "Five on the Floor," which really started off as a pun on the "four on the floor" disco beat. Frontman Raimund Marasigan said the album "incubated" for a year and had the least time to record.

"It is a recording of the past year," he said, "a record of our year together."

Buddy Zabala, Raimund's former Eraserheads bandmate, produced the album under

EMI Philippines, a follow-up to the 2004 independently released "Thanks to the Moon's Gravitational Pull."

Former vocalist Marc Abaya left the band early this year to focus on his stint as MTV VJ and his band KJwan, so Raimund took over the singing job.

Enter new guitarist Mong Alcaraz from Chicosci and The Bitter Pill, much to the delight of female fans.

Completing the Sandwich caboodle are Mike Dizon on drums, Diego Castillo on guitars and Myrene Academia on bass, rockstar mommy to Raimund's kid, Atari.

Although these dudes also play for other bands (Mike for Pedicab; Raimund for Cambio, Squid9 and Pedicab; Myrene for Imago; Mong for Chicosci and The Bitter Pill), Sandwich is still their main dish.

The punk rock band was recently voted Best Indie Artist in the first Myx Music Awards, and was chosen MTV Lokal Artist for the month of April. The classic '80s Atari

game-theme video of their second single, "Walang Kadala-dala," has gained heavy airplay on music channels.

Housemate turned bandmate

Some thought Sandwich is zilch without Marc who is considered the band leader/eye candy. But as Raimund said: "Nandyan si Mong eh!"

"Si Mong kasi housemate ni Diego. Before, Mong jams with us 'pag wala syang gig," he said. "Tambay lang, barkada. Kakatugtog niya, alam na niya iyong songs before the album was recorded. Sabi namin, mag-Sandwich ka na para bayaran ka na rin namin."

Now, 2bU! sits with three Sandwich members as they talk about their new songs, ex-frontman Marc, fashion, eye makeup, their fans and rumors on a brewing Eraserheads

The band talks about its new album, former frontman Marc Abaya, eye makeup, fans and rumors of an E-heads reunion

reunion. Read on:

How different is the album from the previous ones?

Raimund (RM): It had the least guitars with the least distortion, with the most keyboards.

Mong Alcaraz (MA): The songs have the most backup vocals, a number of different voices.

What's your composition process like?

RM: Iba-iba, minsan si Mong magdadala ng isang buong kanta na, or minsan may lyrics ka lang, chorus, melody or concept. Minsan naman buong araw gagawa ka lang ng chorus.

Like "Resbak," pinagawa sa amin ng isang TV station para sa isang pilot na 'di natuloy, so we just included it in the album.

Minsan walang sense talaga, just words that go nice together like "Goodnight January." Classic Sandwich iyon.

Marami kaming nagagawang songs 'pag downtime—sa airport, biyahe sa van, music video shoot, inuman.

"Sugod," the first single off the album, has a great video (directed by Marie Jamora). What's the inspiration behind it?

RM: Nanood kami ng ["Pagkalas"] reunion concert ng Juan de la Cruz last year tapos nandoon sa harap iyong mga musikero—from Paolo Santos to Twisted Halo—we were like kids na pumupunta sa shows namin.

Naisip ko, "Hey, I'm going to wear my tight jeans, slick my hair back and wear my denim

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BY JESS ABRERA



BY P.M. JUNIOR



BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO



BY STEVEN PARALINAS



BY IOMIKE TEIDO



BY DANIEL SHELTON



CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

by Dave Green

7					3	6	9	1
2					9			
4					6			
5	7	6						
						2	1	3
			4					7
			1					6
6	3	8	7					4

Difficulty Level ★★ ★

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Answer to previous puzzle

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.
Tips and program at www.sudoku.com

9	2	4	3	8	7	1	5	6
3	5	6	1	4	2	7	9	8
7	1	8	9	5	6	2	3	4
1	7	5	4	9	3	8	6	2
2	8	3	6	1	5	9	4	7
4	6	9	2	7	8	5	1	3
6	3	1	8	2	9	4	7	5
5	9	2	7	3	4	6	8	1
8	4	7	5	6	1	3	2	9

Difficulty Level ★★

ACROSS

1 Top guns
 5 Paired, like socks
 10 Writer Emile
 14 Singer Cantrell
 15 Online transaction
 16 Bahrain ruler
 17 'My People' author
 18 Gular stroke
 19 Nixon-Brezhnev treaty
 20 Florida production
 23 Prepare for knighthood?
 24 Letter flourish
 25 Crow's-nest site
 28 Dazed state
 32 Checks on car makers
 37 One bound in servitude
 38 Summer in Tours
 39 Hub of Florida's 20A
 41 Wrestling goal
 42 Novelist Jong
 45 Summer cooler
 48 Alter a title
 50 Wasteland
 51 Interchange incinerates
 54 Accumulate
 58 Experiencing fame
 62 On the quiet side
 63 Archibald and Thurmond
 64 Neet rival
 65 Iranian money
 66 Levees
 67 Sicilian volcano
 68 New York nine
 69 Financial share
 70 Plant-to-be

DOWN
Smart follower?
Mountain
retreat
Maternally
related
Riviera resort
GI's meal

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
20				21						22				
23						24								
			25		26	27		28			29	30	31	
32	33	34					35	36		37				
38					39			40			41			
42			43	44		45				46	47			
48					49			50						
			51			52	53			54		55	56	57
	58	59						60	61					
62					63						64			
65					66						67			
68					69						70			

By Philip J. Anderson
Portland, OR

7/12/06

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

G	U	E	S	S		P	E	A	S		S	H	I	N	
O	S	A	K	A		A	M	M	O		T	A	L	E	
P	F	R	I	O	D	I	C	A	L		O	B	O	E	
			P	L	A	N	E		D	E	P	E	N	D	
A	B	C		U	T	T	E	R	E	R			R	A	Y
P	E	O	R	I	A			O	R	F	A	D			
	S	E	L	E			L	O	B	E		B	A	D	E
E	R	O	S		H	E	S	O	D		A	S	O	R	
S	Y	N	F			E	A	S	T		S	C	H	W	A
		O	W	N	S					B	A	K	E	R	S
L	O	S		E	T	H	A	N	O	L		R	Y	F	
A	R	C	A	N	A		M	A	R	I	E				
C	L	O	P				C	O	M	M	A	N	D	E	L
T	O	P	E			A	L	A	E		A	G	R	E	
O	N	Y	X			R	E	N	D		S	E	A	R	S

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46 Soccer score	57 Famous fiddle,
47 Weasels' kin	familarly
49 Improves by	58 Nastase of
editing	tennis
52 Braid	59 Shipshape
53 City on Baranof	60 Submissive
Island	61 Latin 101 word
55 Type size	62 Supply with
56 Polish	weapons

you've never been before. Take a different route home from work. Visit different restaurants, shops and bookstores.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22): You need to rethink what you're prepared to do regarding your responsibilities for someone else. You have to protect your own best interests as well as meet the expectations of others.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22): Today the Moon is opposite your sign. This means you have to go more than halfway when dealing with others. (It's no big deal—just give a little.)

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): Do something extra to create more order and efficiency in your life today. Devote 30 minutes to this. Get rid of what you don't need anymore. De-clutter your surroundings.

 **LIBRA** (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): This is a playful, flirtatious day! Enjoy the company of others. Party and socialize if possible. Romance is promising. Professional sports and children's activities are also highlighted.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): Discussions with a parent are significant today. In fact, all family discussions are important right now. (Show up for dinner.)

 **SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): You want to get down to the nitty-gritty in discussions with others today. You won't be satisfied with superficial Band-Aid approaches to anything.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): This is a good day to sift through your belongings, go through closets and decide what you want to keep and what you want to let go.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): The Moon is in your sign today. This makes you more emotional about everything, but it also tends to bring you a bit of extra good luck.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20): You need some quiet time just for you today. You want to be buffered from the world. Sneak away for at least 30 minutes to seek out some solitude.

Solidum.

Filling up on



MONG Alcaraz from Chicosci and The Bitter Pill stepped up and took over Marc Abaya's guitar tasks.

From page D1

jacket." Pagkatapos pagdating ko doon, ganoon din iyong suot ni Diego. Exactly the same! (Laughter)

MA: Parang bumata kaming lahat.

RM: We were singing along and pumping our fists, kulang na lang bandera. We thought of doing something like that for the video shoot.

'Shaun and Jopet'

A line in "Sugod" says, "I-text mo na sina Shaun at Jopet." A lot of people ask who these characters are.

RM: "Shaun" is [slang for "fashion"] fasyown. A wordplay on fashionistas.

Jopet is the son of Jose Sison [of the defunct '90s show "Ipaglaban Mo"]. Kasi 'pag mali siya sasabihin ng tatay niya: "Diyan ka nagkakamali Jopet."

So kunwari may sumablay, nalahat ako o nakalimutan ko iyong lyrics, someone will say, "Wow, diyan ka nagkakamali, Jopet!" (Laughter)

Who does Raimund's eye makeup?

RM: I do it on my own. (Laughs) That was inspired by a show I saw in 2000, napanood namin iyong "The Cure Live."

Then around two years ago, ang ganda ng nilabas nila na album. Sabi ko, kailangan nating mag-eyeliner ulit.

MA: 'Pag may nagpapa-auto-graph ngayon, eyeliner iyong ginagamit. (Laughter)

RM: May nakita si Mong after a show in SM, tinatangal ng mga punks iyong eyeliner nila.

MA: Bukod sa eyeliner na baon, may sabon na rin sila [to remove it]. Baka, makurusadahan sila. (Laughter)

Tuna vs chicken sandwich

How different is your sound now that Marc's out of the band?

MA: It's like tuna sandwich vs chicken sandwich. Both filling, but different.

RM: Kasama pa namin [recently] si Marc, kumanta pa siya sa'min. Product launch sa Embassy and si Marc iyong host.

Si Marc naman 'pag nandiyan, pinapa-jam din namin. Pamilya naman si Marc. Kailangan lang niyang gawin iyong kailangan niyang gawin.

Mike Dizon (MD): Accepted na kasi iyong sound namin, so hindi na hinahanap na "nasaan si Marc? Nasaan si Marc?"

What are the internal changes in the band?

RM: Maraming adjustments. Si Marc, ibang-iba siyang mag-gitar at kumanta so kailangang i-divide iyong work. Kailangan naming gawan ng paraan na 'di pareho, pero iba rin.

'Sakto rin si Mong. [Like in this album], lahat ng members kumanta, it's the album with the most upfront backup vocals.

Your e-group is very active and fans—from grade school to yuppies—go to your gigs. How

do you maintain the following for years?

RM: It's the same fan base. And more. Nadagdagan. Iyong mga bago, mga bata.

They even call you guys ate and kuya in the threads!

MD: May TV element din because of the videos. May nag-graduate na fans at may nadagdag.

RM: Good thing is sanay yung mga fans na modular. Like when Diego was in Singapore for weeks, or last year when Marc was in London for six months....

MD: One hundred percent pa rin kahit kulang ng isa, ng dalawa.

RM: One hundred percent iyong maririnig mo sa mga kanta, kahit medyo iba.

Last year nga, si Mong ang kumanta in a gig, nagkagulo pa rin sila! Another time, iyong gitarista ng El Mercurio nag-sub without any rehearsals.

MD: Sobrang close kami sa fans. Mga twice a year, may swimming party kami. Siguro kami lang iyong may lister's night at may swimming party.

Do you personally check and answer the mails?

MD: Yeah, I check daily, and Myrene, too.

Indie no more

After signing up for your first and second albums, then going indie for the third, why sign up under a major label again now?

RM: It was a good deal [with EMI], a really sweet deal.

MA: Kasi iyong huling album ["Thanks to the Moon"], due to budget constraints, kami iyong engineer, producer and tinapos namin iyong album sa studio.

MD: Pinag-usapan namin na wider iyong audience, so maganda kung may marketing arm.

But don't bands earn more by producing independently?

RM: Totoo, mas marami kang pera sa royalties pag indie ka...

MD: Matagal naming pinag-isipan iyon. Sabi namin: "Doon ba tayo sa pera ng indie o doon tayo sa popularity na ibibigay ng major record?"

RM: Sa indie, 100 percent iyong returns mo, wala kang label eh, ikaw iyong label. Pero wala ka sa SM San Fernando, wala ka sa SM Davao.

Punong-puno ka lang sa gigs sa Manila pero 'pag may major label ka, iyong positioning mo sa buong Pilipinas.

MD: Wala kaming choice. Our label dropped us. Panahon noon na nag-drop ang labels ng maraming banda kasi iba iyong uso.

RM: Pero punk rock naman iyong Sandwich, 'di naman big deal na indie or major label. Pareho pa rin iyong amount of work na gagawin namin to promote it.

Songs on the floor

"Five on the Floor" has an interesting packaging. The sleeve is a spread of stickers, and the band has no photo on it.

RM: Priority iyong stickers ng artists [who did the cover]. It was not an artistic or rebellious decision.

MA: It doesn't mean anything,

Sandwich



DO YOU KNOW your fave rockstar's real name? Diego is Diego Rafael Claravall Castillo; Mong is Miguel Crisostomo Pervera Alcaraz; Raimund is Raimund Emmanuel Parcon Marasigan; Myrene is Ma. Irene Dimaano Academia; and Mike is Michael Arandia Dizon

iyong huling album naman yata puro photos.

Let's talk about the songs on the album. Is the fast-beat, alliterative "DVDX" an anti-piracy piece?

RM: It's not anti-anything. More of an observation, kasi kahit saan ka pumunta—Mindanao, Greenhills, Quiapo—someone sells "DVDX."

How about "Marikina"? Is it a tribute to the city?

RM: Taga-Marikina kasi kami ni Myrene, then may show sa Riverbanks. I was with TJ (Brillantes) of Greyhoundz. Kumakanta siya ng "Katipunan, Katipunan, here we come" [to the tune of a soundtrack from "The

OC" TV show].

I told TJ that I'll use the song in a Marikina gig. Then I asked Mong kung alam niya iyong chords ng "California." I sang "Marikina, Marikina, here we come." (Laughter)

There was a kid with a flag bearing the Metallica logo pero Marikina iyong nakalagay. Sabi ko susulat ako ng kantang "Marikina" after the show.

A lot of people like "Sunburn," they thought it would be the second single off the album.

RM: [Foreign pop punk group] Dead Milkman has a song, "I Don't Wanna Be on the Beach." Iyon ang sagot namin dun. Kasi last year, lagi kaming nasa beach.

MD: We wanted "Sunburn" to be the second single, kaso inabutan na ng tag-ulan. (Laughs)

MA: We're having "Walang Kadala-dala" instead as second single.

RM: "Walang Kadala-dala" is also a band thing, [it was created] sa mga inuman, sa mga redwine sessions namin.

After seven years, what more can we expect from Sandwich?

RM: We're covering "Bakit Ang Babae" for an Apo Hiking Society tribute album, arranged and produced by Mong.

What's new? A new website, new shirt designs, tighter pants... (Laughter)

MA: Groupies?

E-heads comeback?

You're working with former bandmate Buddy now, is an Eraserheads reunion in the works?

RM: Having Buddy Zabala as producer was a group decision. Gusto lang namin ng artist. As for an E-heads reunion—not in the near future.

Are there offers?

RM: Every week! And twice a week, may nagtatanong na reporter about it.

MA: We cover the 'Heads in gigs, though. Lahat ng kabanda ni Raimund, E-heads fans eh.

E-mail the author at iperez@yahoo.com

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FLYWEAR, the trendy but affordable sunglasses, has opened new branches at SM City North Edsa and SM City Sta. Rosa. Now, it has 29 branches all over Metro Manila. With new celebrity endorser Isabel Oli, Flywear makes the case that it's not just an ordinary eyepiece. Its UV 400 technology also provides fashionable protection against the sun's harmful rays.

Tuned for tunes

By Gabriel H. Mercado
Contributor

IN THE COURSE OF REVIEWING some of the best cell phone, PDA, mp3 player, camera and combinations of those the industry has to offer, I have had the unwelcome opportunity of encountering some lemons.

Most of the time, it would be difficult in managing a specific

function, usually the mp3 player or the camera. But it can also be a feature that does not seem to be as modern as the rest of the phone, a confusing operating system, or not enough memory to store information or run processes.

In a recent case, the situation was bad enough to render a loaner for review close to useless, as I could not even text or call someone without pulling my hair in frustration. I had to go back to my old phone.

The experience taught me not to expect too much from new products, but rather, to see them as what they are—as an exercise by the manufacturer to develop the very cutting edge, highest level of tech available, in order to develop next year's "ordinary phone," albeit at the occasional expense of practicality.

It's sort of like Formula 1 cars, which test the latest, straight from the lab innovations before use in ordinary cars. Although superior in every way, it'd be silly to drive one on the street as you'd need a team of mechanics following in a truck.

Of course, I'm being extreme, but you get the point. And such was the irony, I thought, of buying a high-end phone. One risks practicality and paying a hefty price just to get

"too-cutting-edge technology." Until Nokia N91 came along.

'Featurrific'

Let's talk about what gets everybody salivating: 4GB of hard disk-based storage, for an approximate 3,000 songs and a multi-codec music player for more hours of listening pleasure.

Bundle in a good old-fashioned (and therefore universally compatible) audio line in/line out cable and the HS-28, a special headset with remote control, and there's no mistake what Nokia is trying to do here: this is its flagship for the "phone with music player" market. Either use the earphones, or hook it up with a stereo's standard 3.5-mm port and you're playing your 3,000 songs everywhere you go.

Then there's connectivity. Common among other N-Series, namely the N70, N80 and N91, is tri-band functionality, along with 3G and Bluetooth. It has USB 2.0 along with my absolute favorite, Wi-Fi.

For me, the ability to keep an eye on e-mail while going about daily chores without turning my computer on is a Godsend. Those like myself who worship e-mail gods Yahoo and Gmail will agree. Any phone that can hook you up by just walking past (and leeching off) a coffeehouse's free hotspot or as you park your car in the garage and get within your house's Wi-Fi range, feels like a miracle.

If Nokia could put an RSS reader into the mix I might even consider buying the new laptop I've been saving for.

We round off with the camera, featuring 2MP capability and 8x digital zoom, which is, in my book, about as close to becoming actually useful as phone-cams go, and even then, strictly within the

best of conditions.

Anything less is, as everyone with 1.3MP knows by now, a waste of time. Video-streaming capability, along with a bundled Microsoft Media Player v10 indicates possibilities of using that 3G connection for downloading videos. But that depends on how gracious our service providers can be.

Real-world savvy

The Nokia press release says that the N-Series phones build on the strengths of the Nokia brand and technology along with "user friendliness and iconic identification." If these were the benchmarks to base the N91 on, I would say that it has no problems with the iconic part, being a Nokia, the *de rigueur* phone of choice in the texting capital of the world.

Although a bit heavy and almost smudgy, the sleek, sliding casing helps. While I normally avoid phones with moving parts, the N91 feels solid and the slider gives a reassuring click, sans the doubt you get when you slip a piece of plastic across, which is actually what you're doing.

But what I'd rave about is how easy to use this phone is, in spite of all its tech wonders. I'd use the word "street-smart" instead of the drab "user-friendly" to describe this phone, as everything works quickly, easily and intuitively without sacrificing practicality, all the while employing without a doubt, the "highest-tech of high-tech" available anywhere.

I'm not sure if Nokia developed an MP3 player first, then a phone second (or it's the other way around) to get this right. Or maybe that's not the way to think of it at all. I think they just made something that works either way, and works right.



ON THE OUTSIDE, looking in. Barely recognizable in dentist's duds, the author (right) assists Dr. Salinda in a mock dental checkup.

dentist for a day

Oral-B promotes proper dental care

By Angela V. Ignacio
2bUI Correspondent

Some helpful tips

FOR MOST OF US, TEETH-CARE is not on top of our priorities. Sad, but embarrassingly true. Oral-B's recent event, "Dentist For A Day," showed members of the press why oral and dental hygiene is important and that observing so is not expensive nor time-consuming as commonly thought.

For starters, Ming Arroyo and Jonas Arellano of Oral-B and Dr. Jessica Santos of the UP College of Dentistry gave eye-opening talks on the status and importance of oral and dental care in the Philippines.

Trivia: did you know that tooth decay is five times more common in children than asthma? This probably stems from the myth that it's okay not to brush milk teeth, as they will eventually be replaced by permanent ones.

In our country, the staggering prevalence of gum disease and tooth decay is enough to make a dentist cry. Some families in impoverished areas are even reported to share toothbrushes, thus spreading bacteria from member to member.

Plus, going to the dentist connotes pain, fear or trauma (not to mention whopping fees) for the tooth decay-stricken majority, so they avoid those appointments even though their pearly whites have now become dirty whites.

All of these stats prove that little importance is given to combating dental problems. According to Arroyo, Oral-B aims to counter that crisis by reintroducing and promoting proper oral and dental care through their top-of-the-line products that suit people of all ages.

It's no wonder, then, that the 2006 Dentists Equity Study conducted by AC Nielsen revealed that 88 percent of Filipino dentists personally use Oral-B.

Dentist for a day

After the talk, the members of the press were given the chance to become dentists for a day, complete with white coats, face masks, bouffant caps and surgical gloves.

Fortunately for us, our "patients" (who were students from the UP College of Dentistry) took their dental hygiene lessons seriously, so we had no gruesome encounters with tooth decay during our brief stint as "dentists."

As our "dentist-buddies," Dr. Jessica Santos, Dr. Marcelle Salinda and Dr. Susana Sotelo of the faculty of the UP College of Dentistry gave us a firsthand look at how to do a proper dental checkup as well as taking the patient's oral history.

We had the "patient" rinse her

● Invest in a good, sturdy toothbrush. Most dentists would recommend one with soft bristles. The "good" ones are a bit pricey. I know, but it beats having to pay thousands of pesos for a root canal.

● Change your toothbrush regularly. Most models have blue indicators that fade when it's time to buy a new one. Or if yours doesn't have any, change it every three months. Also, don't forget to brush your tongue.

● Use toothpaste sparingly. No matter how much toothpaste you squirt on, your teeth will only stay clean as often as you brush it. Besides, too much fluoride can weaken the enamel on your teeth, so only put a pea-sized amount on your toothbrush.

● Have a regular brushing routine. You can start from the front or the back, it's up to you, but having a routine will ensure that you've brushed every nook and cranny of your mouth. It's recommended to brush your upper set of teeth first so the dirt falls down and is washed off later on. Make it a point to brush the back of your teeth thoroughly, as it is the area most prone to bacterial culture.

● Don't skimp on the floss. Wind an 18-inch piece on both pointers, leaving one end loose and dangling for use on other teeth. Coil the floss around each tooth in a C and rub gently so it won't hurt your gums and remove plaque better.

Angela V. Ignacio

mouth with a plaque disclosing solution which, as Dr. Salinda explained to our group, stains the plaque-ridden areas a darker shade of red.

Next, she showed us how to use a power toothbrush properly, which meant turning it on when it's already in your mouth so the toothpaste won't splatter.

And, instead of the usual up-and-down routine, the power toothbrush should stay put on each tooth for about two seconds, as rushing and brushing viciously will only hurt your gums.

The whole experience left me thinking twice about my brushing and flossing habits. When I think of all the plaque and dirt and goodness knows what else dentists have to deal with every day, I start to think that maybe I should make their jobs a little easier.

Besides, keeping my teeth clean and white (or maybe as close to white as humanly possible) will inspire me to smile more. Now that's a habit I could really sink my teeth into.

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That is why the largest marketing communications network in the world takes another bold and pioneering step with the adoption of a new philosophy...

DEMAND CREATION

The concept is molded for today's demand-driven economy in a world that has become abundant in supply. As more and more companies realize that cutting cost only yields short-term gains, the most sustainable way to deliver the bottomline is by creating demand for one's brand.

With the Demand Creation philosophy, McCann is adopting a media-neutral approach to stimulate consumer demand for marketers' products and services. The global powerhouse is uniquely poised for this as it evolves into a new organization composed of different disciplines – from advertising to media planning and buying, from relationship marketing to activation, from brand consultancy to PR and even specialized communications for healthcare. This move gives McCann an edge in the face of a channel explosion.

McCA

A PASSION FOR CRI

EINHORN IN MANILA

Under the stewardship of Eric Einhorn, Global Chief Strategist and recently appointed Regional Director for Asia-Pacific, Demand Creation is radically changing brand management paradigms and business growth strategies.

Einhorn – architect of the Demand Chain, a suite of proprietary tools designed to support the Demand Creation philosophy – will be in Manila for the McCann Worldgroup launch to talk about the Demand Creation philosophy and how it can

revolutionize the way businesses compete in today's marketing environment.

Together with Einhorn, other guests from the region will also grace the launch: discipline heads **Mike Langton** (EVP Regional Director, Momentum) and **Andrew Pirie** (President for Asia Pacific, Weber Shandwick), **Rohit Sahgal** (General Manager, McCann Healthcare), **Robert Tan** (Director, FutureBrand Singapore), and McCann Erickson Area Director for South and South-East Asia **Sorab Mistry**.



When it has the balls

When it makes consumers line up

When competition sits up

When everything falls into place

When it's one success after another

McCANN CREATING DEMAND

McCANN CREATIVE HEADS MEET

Creativity is at the heart of the Demand Creation philosophy. That is why, for the very first time, McCann's Regional Creative Council will meet in Manila to assess the quality of creative work across the region and to offer advice and mentoring for many of the emerging markets. This will be attended by McCann's multi-awarded creative leaders, among them:

Jeremy Perrott, Regional Creative Director for Asia-Pacific and Executive Creative Director for McCann Tokyo

Prasoon Joshi, Regional Creative Director for South and South-East Asia

PRE-EVENT: McCANN'S LATEST LANDMARK CONSUMER STUDY

McCann has always been at the forefront of quantitative psychographic researches. Unparalleled in the market, the agency's studies on the youth, Filipino male and women have benefited not only McCann clients but have also empowered various sectors of society to influence policies and programs in the academe, church and government.

This year, McCann will launch another study which does not only focus on a specific age or gender but covers a wider range of demographics. Called *The McCann Inter-generation Study*, the research compares the different generations of Filipinos living today: teens, 20-somethings, 30-somethings and those above 40.

The study, which covers all socio-economic classes, is quantitative and

national in scope. It investigates the lifestyle, behavior, values, consumption patterns and other psychographics. It also includes an in-depth profiling of different archetypes of Pinoys today. McCann's latest landmark study will be presented at 4pm, immediately preceding the Worldgroup launch in the evening.

DEMAND CREATION LAUNCH IN THE PHILIPPINES

This exclusive event happens on July 13, 2006. Patricia Arches, McCann Philippines' president and CEO, will headline the event.

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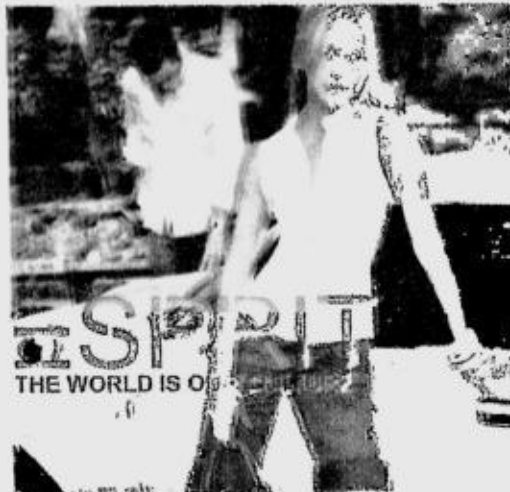


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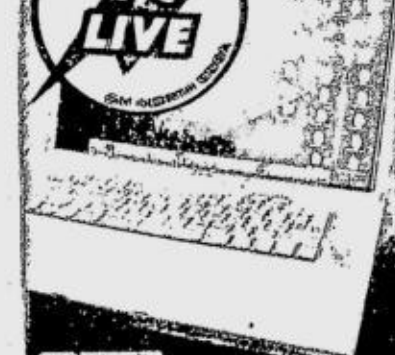
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